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(54) Title: PROTEASES AND ASSOCIATED PROTEINS

(57) Abstract

The invention provides human proteases and associated proteins (PPRG) and polynucleotides which identify and encode PPRG. The invention also provides expression vectors, host cells, antibodies, agonists, and antagonists. The invention also provides methods for diagnosing, treating, or preventing disorders associated with expression of PPRG.

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PROTEASES AND ASSOCIATED PROTEINS

TECHNICAL FIELD

This invention relates to nucleic acid and amino acid sequences of proteases and associated proteins and to the use of these sequences in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of cell proliferative and immune disorders.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Proteolytic processing is an essential component of normal cell growth, differentiation, remodeling, and homeostasis. The cleavage of peptide bonds within cells is necessary for the maturation of precursor proteins to their active forms, the removal of signal sequences from targeted proteins, the degradation of incorrectly folded proteins, and the controlled turnover of peptides within the cell. Proteases participate in apoptosis, inflammation, and tissue remodeling 15 during embryonic development, wound healing, and normal growth. They are necessary components of bacterial, parasitic, and viral invasion and replication within a host. Four principal categories of mammalian proteases have been identified based on active site structure, mechanism of action, and overall three-dimensional structure. (See Beynon, R.J. and J.S. Bond (1994) Proteolytic Enzymes: A Practical Approach, Oxford University Press, New York NY, pp. 1-5.)

The serine proteases (SPs) are a large family of proteolytic enzymes that include the digestive enzymes, trypsin and chymotrypsin; components of the complement cascade and of the blood-clotting cascade; and enzymes that control the degradation and turnover of macromolecules of the extracellular matrix. SPs are so named because of the presence of a serine residue in the active site for catalysis of protein cleavage. The active site of an SP is composed of a triad of 25 residues including the aforementioned serine, an aspartate, and a histidine residue. SPs have a wide range of substrate specificities and can be subdivided into subfamilies on the basis of these specificities. The main sub-families are trypases which cleave after arginine or lysine; aspases which cleave after aspartate; chymases which cleave after phenylalanine or leucine; metases which cleavage after methionine; and serases which cleave after serine. Clp protease is a unique member 30 of the serine protease family as its activity is controlled by a regulatory subunit that binds and hydrolyzes ATP. Clp protease was originally found in plant chloroplasts but is believed to be widespread in both prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells (Maurizi, M.R. et al. (1990) J. Biol. Chem. 265:12546-12552). SKD3, a mammalian homolog of the bacterial Clp regulatory subunit, has recently been identified in mouse (Perier, F. et al. (1995) Gene 152:157-163).



Cysteine proteases are involved in diverse cellular processes ranging from the processing of precursor proteins to intracellular degradation. Mammalian cysteine proteases include lysosomal cathepsins and cytosolic calcium activated proteases, calpains. Of particular note, cysteine proteases are produced by monocytes, macrophages and other cells of the immune system which migrate to sites of inflammation and, in their protective role, secrete various molecules to repair damaged tissue. These cells may overproduce the same molecules and cause tissue destruction in certain disorders. In autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, the secretion of the cysteine protease, cathepsin C, degrades collagen, laminin, elastin and other structural proteins found in the extracellular matrix of bones. The cathepsin family of lysosomal proteases includes the cysteine proteases: cathepsins B, H, K, L, O2, and S; and the aspartyl proteases: cathepsins D and G. Various members of this endosomal protease family are differentially expressed. Some, such as cathepsin D, have a ubiquitous tissue distribution while others, such as cathepsin L, are found only in monocytes, macrophages, and other cells of the immune system.

Aspartic proteases include bacterial penicillopepsin, mammalian pepsin, renin, chymosin, and certain fungal proteases. The characteristic active site residues of aspartic proteases are a pair of aspartic acid residues, for example, Asp33 and Asp213 in penicillopepsin. Aspartic proteases are also called acid proteases because the optimum pH for their activity is between 2 and 3. In this pH range, one of the aspartate residues is ionized and the other is neutral. A potent inhibitor of aspartic proteases is the hexapeptide pepstatin which, in the transition state, resembles normal substrates.

Carboxypeptidases A and B are the principal mammalian representatives of the metalloprotease family. Both are exopeptidases of similar structure and active site configuration. Carboxypeptidase A, like chymotrypsin, prefers C-terminal aromatic and aliphatic side chains of hydrophobic nature, whereas carboxypeptidase B is directed toward basic arginine and lysine residues. Active site components include zinc, which coordinates one histidine and two glutamic acid residues in the protein.

Proteasomes and ubiquitin proteases are both associated with the ubiquitin conjugation system (UCS), a major pathway for the degradation of cellular proteins in eukaryotic cells and some bacteria. Proteasomes are large (~2000 kDa), multisubunit complexes composed of a central catalytic core containing a variety of proteases, and terminal subunits that serve in substrate recognition and regulation of proteasome activity. The UCS mediates the elimination of abnormal proteins and regulates the half-lives of important regulatory proteins that control cellular processes such as gene transcription and cell cycle progression. In the UCS pathway, a protein targeted for

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degradation is conjugated to ubiquitin, a small, heat-stable protein. The ubiquitinated protein is then recognized and degraded by a proteasome, and ubiquitin is released by ubiquitin protease for reutilization in the UCS. The UCS is implicated in the degradation of mitotic cyclic kinases, oncoproteins, tumor suppressor genes such as p53, viral proteins, cell surface receptors associated 5 with signal transduction, transcriptional regulators, and mutated or damaged proteins (Ciechanover, A. (1994) Cell 79:13-21). A murine proto-oncogene, Unp, encodes a nuclear ubiquitin protease whose overexpression leads to oncogenic transformation of NIH 3T3 cells, and the human homolog of this gene is consistently elevated in small cell tumors and adenocarcinomas of the lung (Gray, D.A. (1995) Oncogene 10:2179-2183).

Many other proteolytic enzymes do not fit any of the major categories discussed above because their mechanisms of action and/or active sites have not been elucidated. These include the aminopeptidases and signal peptidases. Aminopeptidases catalyze the hydrolysis of amino acid residues from the amino terminus of peptide substrates. Bovine leucine aminopeptidase is a zinc metalloenzyme that utilizes the sulfhydryl groups from at least three reactive cysteine 15 residues at its active site in the binding of metal ions (Cuypers, H.T. et al. (1982) J. Biol. Chem. 257:7086-7091).

Signal peptidases are a specialized class of proteases found in all prokaryotic and eukaryotic cell types that serve in the processing of signal peptides. Signal peptides are amino-terminal sequences which direct the protein from its ribosomal assembly site to a particular 20 cellular or extracellular location. Once the protein has been exported, removal of the signal sequence by a signal peptidase and posttranslational processing activate the protein. Signal peptidases exist as multi-subunit complexes in both yeast and mammals.

Protease inhibitors and other regulators of protease activity control the activity and effects of proteases. Protease inhibitors have been shown to control pathogenesis in animal models of 25 proteolytic disorders (Murphy, G. (1991) Agents Actions Suppl. 35:69-76). Low levels of the cystatins, low molecular weight inhibitors of the cysteine proteases, correlate with malignant progression of tumors. (Calkins, C. et al. (1995) Biol. Biochem. Hoppe Seyler 376:71-80). Also, increases in cysteine protease levels, when accompanied by reductions in inhibitor activity, are correlated with the pathology of arthritis and immunological diseases in humans.

Serpins are inhibitors of mammalian plasma serine proteases. Many serpins serve to regulate the blood clotting cascade and/or the complement cascade in mammals. Sp32 is a positive regulator of the mammalian acrosomal protease, acrosin. Sp32 binds the proenzyme, proacrosin, and thereby aides in packaging the enzyme into the acrosomal matrix (Baba, T. et al. (1994) J. Biol. Chem. 269:10133-10140).

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The Kunitz family of serine protease inhibitors is characterized by one or more "Kunitz domains" containing a series of cysteine residues that are regularly spaced over approximately 50 amino acid residues and form three intrachain disulfide bonds. Members of this family include aprotinin, tissue factor pathway inhibitor (TFPI-1 and TFPI-2), inter-α-trypsin inhibitor, and bikunin (Marlor, C.W. et al. (1997) J. Biol. Chem. 272:12202-12208). Members of this family are potent inhibitors (in the nanomolar range) against serine proteases such as kallikrein and plasmin.

The discovery of new proteases and associated proteins and the polynucleotides encoding them satisfies a need in the art by providing new compositions which are useful in the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of cell proliferative and immune disorders.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention features substantially purified polypeptides, proteases and associated proteins referred to collectively as "PPRG" and individually as "PPRG-1," "PPRG-2," "PPRG-3," "PPRG-4," "PPRG-5," "PPRG-6," "PPRG-7," "PPRG-8," "PPRG-9," "PPRG-10," "PPRG-11," "PPRG-12," "PPRG-13," "PPRG-14," "PPRG-15," "PPRG-16," "PPRG-17," "PPRG-18," "PPRG-19," and "PPRG-20." In one aspect, the invention provides a substantially purified polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-20, and fragments thereof.

The invention further provides a substantially purified variant having at least 90% amino acid identity to at least one of the amino acid sequences selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-20 and fragments thereof. The invention also provides an isolated and purified polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-20 and fragments thereof. The invention also includes an isolated and purified polynucleotide variant having at least 90% polynucleotide sequence identity to the polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-20 and fragments thereof.

Additionally, the invention provides an isolated and purified polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-20 and fragments thereof. The invention also provides an isolated and purified polynucleotide having a sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-20 and fragments thereof.

The invention also provides a method for detecting a polynucleotide in a sample containing nucleic acids, the method comprising the steps of (a) hybridizing the complement of the



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polynucleotide sequence to at least one of the polynucleotides of the sample, thereby forming a hybridization complex; and (b) detecting the hybridization complex, wherein the presence of the hybridization complex correlates with the presence of a polynucleotide in the sample. In one aspect, the method further comprises amplifying the polynucleotide prior to hybridization.

The invention also provides an isolated and purified polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NO:21-40, and fragments thereof. The invention further provides an isolated and purified polynucleotide variant having at least 90% polynucleotide sequence identity to the polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:21-40 and fragments thereof. The invention also provides an 10 isolated and purified polynucleotide having a sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEO ID NO:21-40 and fragments thereof.

The invention further provides an expression vector containing at least a fragment of the polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-20 and fragments thereof. In another aspect, the expression vector is contained within a host cell.

The invention also provides a method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising the steps of: (a) culturing the host cell containing an expression vector containing at least a fragment of a polynucleotide under conditions suitable for the expression of the polypeptide; and (b) recovering the polypeptide from the host cell culture.

The invention also provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising a substantially purified polypeptide having the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-20 and fragments thereof, in conjunction with a suitable pharmaceutical carrier.

The invention further includes a purified antibody which binds to a polypeptide selected 25 from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-20 and fragments thereof. The invention also provides a purified agonist and a purified antagonist to the polypeptide.

The invention also provides a method for treating or preventing a disorder associated with decreased expression or activity of PPRG, the method comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising a substantially purified polypeptide having the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-20 and fragments thereof, in conjunction with a suitable pharmaceutical carrier.

The invention also provides a method for treating or preventing a disorder associated with increased expression or activity of PPRG, the method comprising administering to a subject in

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need of such treatment an effective amount of an antagonist of a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-20 and fragments thereof.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE TABLES

Table 1 shows polypeptide and nucleotide sequence identification numbers (SEQ ID NOs), clone identification numbers (clone IDs), cDNA libraries, and cDNA fragments used to assemble full-length sequences encoding PPRG.

Table 2 shows features of each polypeptide sequence, including potential motifs, homologous sequences, and methods and algorithms used for identification of PPRG.

Table 3 shows the tissue-specific expression patterns of each nucleic acid sequence as determined by northern analysis, diseases, disorders, or conditions associated with these tissues, and the vector into which each cDNA was cloned.

Table 4 describes the tissues used to construct the cDNA libraries from which cDNA clones encoding PPRG were isolated.

Table 5 shows the tools, programs, and algorithms used to analyze PPRG, along with applicable descriptions, references, and threshold parameters.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Before the present proteins, nucleotide sequences, and methods are described, it is understood that this invention is not limited to the particular machines, materials and methods described, as these may vary. It is also to be understood that the terminology used herein is for the purpose of describing particular embodiments only, and is not intended to limit the scope of the present invention which will be limited only by the appended claims.

It must be noted that as used herein and in the appended claims, the singular forms "a,"

25 "an," and "the" include plural reference unless the context clearly dictates otherwise. Thus, for example, a reference to "a host cell" includes a plurality of such host cells, and a reference to "an antibody" is a reference to one or more antibodies and equivalents thereof known to those skilled in the art, and so forth.

Unless defined otherwise, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same

meanings as commonly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to which this invention
belongs. Although any machines, materials, and methods similar or equivalent to those described
herein can be used to practice or test the present invention, the preferred machines, materials and
methods are now described. All publications mentioned herein are cited for the purpose of
describing and disclosing the cell lines, protocols, reagents and vectors which are reported in the

publications and which might be used in connection with the invention. Nothing herein is to be





construed as an admission that the invention is not entitled to antedate such disclosure by virtue of prior invention.

DEFINITIONS

"PPRG" refers to the amino acid sequences of substantially purified PPRG obtained from any species, particularly a mammalian species, including bovine, ovine, porcine, murine, equine, and preferably the human species, from any source, whether natural, synthetic, semi-synthetic, or recombinant.

The term "agonist" refers to a molecule which, when bound to PPRG, increases or prolongs the duration of the effect of PPRG. Agonists may include proteins, nucleic acids, carbohydrates, or any other molecules which bind to and modulate the effect of PPRG.

An "allelic variant" is an alternative form of the gene encoding PPRG. Allelic variants may result from at least one mutation in the nucleic acid sequence and may result in altered mRNAs or in polypeptides whose structure or function may or may not be altered. Any given natural or recombinant gene may have none, one, or many allelic forms. Common mutational changes which give rise to allelic variants are generally ascribed to natural deletions, additions, or substitutions of nucleotides. Each of these types of changes may occur alone, or in combination with the others, one or more times in a given sequence.

"Altered" nucleic acid sequences encoding PPRG include those sequences with deletions, insertions, or substitutions of different nucleotides, resulting in a polynucleotide the same as PPRG 20 or a polypeptide with at least one functional characteristic of PPRG. Included within this definition are polymorphisms which may or may not be readily detectable using a particular oligonucleotide probe of the polynucleotide encoding PPRG, and improper or unexpected hybridization to allelic variants, with a locus other than the normal chromosomal locus for the polynucleotide sequence encoding PPRG. The encoded protein may also be "altered," and may 25 contain deletions, insertions, or substitutions of amino acid residues which produce a silent change and result in a functionally equivalent PPRG. Deliberate amino acid substitutions may be made on the basis of similarity in polarity, charge, solubility, hydrophobicity, hydrophilicity, and/or the amphipathic nature of the residues, as long as the biological or immunological activity of PPRG is retained. For example, negatively charged amino acids may include aspartic acid and glutamic acid, positively charged amino acids may include lysine and arginine, and amino acids with uncharged polar head groups having similar hydrophilicity values may include leucine, isoleucine, and valine; glycine and alanine; asparagine and glutamine; serine and threonine; and phenylalanine and tyrosine.

The terms "amino acid" and "amino acid sequence" refer to an oligopeptide, peptide,







polypeptide, or protein sequence, or a fragment of any of these, and to naturally occurring or synthetic molecules. In this context, "fragments," "immunogenic fragments," or "antigenic fragments" refer to fragments of PPRG which are preferably at least 5 to about 15 amino acids in length, most preferably at least 14 amino acids, and which retain some biological activity or immunological activity of PPRG. Where "amino acid sequence" is recited to refer to an amino acid sequence of a naturally occurring protein molecule, "amino acid sequence" and like terms are not meant to limit the amino acid sequence to the complete native amino acid sequence associated with the recited protein molecule.

"Amplification" relates to the production of additional copies of a nucleic acid sequence.

Amplification is generally carried out using polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technologies well known in the art.

The term "antagonist" refers to a molecule which, when bound to PPRG, decreases the amount or the duration of the effect of the biological or immunological activity of PPRG.

Antagonists may include proteins, nucleic acids, carbohydrates, antibodies, or any other molecules which decrease the effect of PPRG.

The term "antibody" refers to intact molecules as well as to fragments thereof, such as Fab, F(ab')₂, and Fv fragments, which are capable of binding the epitopic determinant. Antibodies that bind PPRG polypeptides can be prepared using intact polypeptides or using fragments containing small peptides of interest as the immunizing antigen. The polypeptide or oligopeptide used to immunize an animal (e.g., a mouse, a rat, or a rabbit) can be derived from the translation of RNA, or synthesized chemically, and can be conjugated to a carrier protein if desired. Commonly used carriers that are chemically coupled to peptides include bovine serum albumin, thyroglobulin, and keyhole limpet hemocyanin (KLH). The coupled peptide is then used to immunize the animal.

The term "antigenic determinant" refers to that fragment of a molecule (i.e., an epitope) that makes contact with a particular antibody. When a protein or a fragment of a protein is used to immunize a host animal, numerous regions of the protein may induce the production of antibodies which bind specifically to antigenic determinants (given regions or three-dimensional structures on the protein). An antigenic determinant may compete with the intact antigen (i.e., the immunogen used to elicit the immune response) for binding to an antibody.

The term "antisense" refers to any composition containing a nucleic acid sequence which is complementary to the "sense" strand of a specific nucleic acid sequence. Antisense molecules may be produced by any method including synthesis or transcription. Once introduced into a cell, the complementary nucleotides combine with natural sequences produced by the cell to form duplexes and to block either transcription or translation. The designation "negative" can refer to







the antisense strand, and the designation "positive" can refer to the sense strand.

The term "biologically active" refers to a protein having structural, regulatory, or biochemical functions of a naturally occurring molecule. Likewise, "immunologically active" refers to the capability of the natural, recombinant, or synthetic PPRG, or of any oligopeptide 5 thereof, to induce a specific immune response in appropriate animals or cells and to bind with specific antibodies.

The terms "complementary" and "complementarity" refer to the natural binding of polynucleotides by base pairing. For example, the sequence "5' A-G-T 3" bonds to the complementary sequence "3' T-C-A 5'." Complementarity between two single-stranded molecules 10 may be "partial," such that only some of the nucleic acids bind, or it may be "complete," such that total complementarity exists between the single stranded molecules. The degree of complementarity between nucleic acid strands has significant effects on the efficiency and strength of the hybridization between the nucleic acid strands. This is of particular importance in amplification reactions, which depend upon binding between nucleic acids strands, and in the 15 design and use of peptide nucleic acid (PNA) molecules.

A "composition comprising a given polynucleotide sequence" and a "composition comprising a given amino acid sequence" refer broadly to any composition containing the given polynucleotide or amino acid sequence. The composition may comprise a dry formulation or an aqueous solution. Compositions comprising polynucleotide sequences encoding PPRG or --20 fragments of PPRG may be employed as hybridization probes. The probes may be stored in freeze-dried form and may be associated with a stabilizing agent such as a carbohydrate. In hybridizations, the probe may be deployed in an aqueous solution containing salts (e.g., NaCl), detergents (e.g., sodium dodecyl sulfate; SDS), and other components (e.g., Denhardt's solution, dry milk, salmon sperm DNA, etc.).

"Consensus sequence" refers to a nucleic acid sequence which has been resequenced to resolve uncalled bases, extended using the XL-PCR kit (Perkin-Elmer, Norwalk CT) in the 5' and/or the 3' direction, and resequenced, or which has been assembled from the overlapping sequences of more than one Incyte Clone using a computer program for fragment assembly, such as the GELVIEW fragment assembly system (GCG, Madison WI). Some sequences have been 30 both extended and assembled to produce the consensus sequence.

The term "correlates with expression of a polynucleotide" indicates that the detection of the presence of nucleic acids, the same or related to a nucleic acid sequence encoding PPRG, by northern analysis is indicative of the presence of nucleic acids encoding PPRG in a sample, and thereby correlates with expression of the transcript from the polynucleotide encoding PPRG.

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A "deletion" refers to a change in the amino acid or nucleotide sequence that results in the absence of one or more amino acid residues or nucleotides.

The term "derivative" refers to the chemical modification of a polypeptide sequence, or a polynucleotide sequence. Chemical modifications of a polynucleotide sequence can include, for 5 example, replacement of hydrogen by an alkyl, acyl, or amino group. A derivative polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide which retains at least one biological or immunological function of the natural molecule. A derivative polypeptide is one modified by glycosylation, pegylation, or any similar process that retains at least one biological or immunological function of the polypeptide from which it was derived.

The term "similarity" refers to a degree of complementarity. There may be partial similarity or complete similarity. The word "identity" may substitute for the word "similarity," A partially complementary sequence that at least partially inhibits an identical sequence from hybridizing to a target nucleic acid is referred to as "substantially similar." The inhibition of hybridization of the completely complementary sequence to the target sequence may be examined using a hybridization assay (Southern or northern blot, solution hybridization, and the like) under conditions of reduced stringency. A substantially similar sequence or hybridization probe will compete for and inhibit the binding of a completely similar (identical) sequence to the target sequence under conditions of reduced stringency. This is not to say that conditions of reduced stringency are such that non-specific binding is permitted, as reduced stringency conditions 20 require that the binding of two sequences to one another be a specific (i.e., a selective) interaction. The absence of non-specific binding may be tested by the use of a second target sequence which lacks even a partial degree of complementarity (e.g., less than about 30% similarity or identity). In the absence of non-specific binding, the substantially similar sequence or probe will not hybridize to the second non-complementary target sequence.

The phrases "percent identity" and "% identity" refer to the percentage of sequence similarity found in a comparison of two or more amino acid or nucleic acid sequences. Percent identity can be determined electronically, e.g., by using the MEGALIGN program (DNASTAR, Madison WI) which creates alignments between two or more sequences according to methods selected by the user, e.g., the clustal method. (See, e.g., Higgins, D.G. and P.M. Sharp (1988) 30 Gene 73:237-244.) Parameters for each method may be the default parameters provided by MEGALIGN or may be specified by the user. The clustal algorithm groups sequences into clusters by examining the distances between all pairs. The clusters are aligned pairwise and then in groups. The percentage similarity between two amino acid sequences, e.g., sequence A and sequence B, is calculated by dividing the length of sequence A, minus the number of gap residues WO 00/09709

in sequence A, minus the number of gap residues in sequence B, into the sum of the residue matches between sequence A and sequence B, times one hundred. Gaps of low or of no similarity between the two amino acid sequences are not included in determining percentage similarity.

Percent identity between nucleic acid sequences can also be counted or calculated by other methods known in the art, e.g., the Jotun Hein method. (See, e.g., Hein, J. (1990) Methods Enzymol. 183:626-645.) Identity between sequences can also be determined by other methods known in the art, e.g., by varying hybridization conditions.

"Human artificial chromosomes" (HACs) are linear microchromosomes which may contain DNA sequences of about 6 kb to 10 Mb in size, and which contain all of the elements required for stable mitotic chromosome segregation and maintenance.

The term "humanized antibody" refers to antibody molecules in which the amino acid sequence in the non-antigen binding regions has been altered so that the antibody more closely resembles a human antibody, and still retains its original binding ability.

"Hybridization" refers to any process by which a strand of nucleic acid binds with a complementary strand through base pairing.

The term "hybridization complex" refers to a complex formed between two nucleic acid sequences by virtue of the formation of hydrogen bonds between complementary bases. A hybridization complex may be formed in solution (e.g., $C_0 t$ or $R_0 t$ analysis) or formed between one nucleic acid sequence present in solution and another nucleic acid sequence immobilized on a solid support (e.g., paper, membranes, filters, chips, pins or glass slides, or any other appropriate substrate to which cells or their nucleic acids have been fixed).

The words "insertion" and "addition" refer to changes in an amino acid or nucleotide sequence resulting in the addition of one or more amino acid residues or nucleotides, respectively, to the sequence found in the naturally occurring molecule.

"Immune response" can refer to conditions associated with inflammation, trauma, immune disorders, or infectious or genetic disease, etc. These conditions can be characterized by expression of various factors, e.g., cytokines, chemokines, and other signaling molecules, which may affect cellular and systemic defense systems.

The term "microarray" refers to an arrangement of distinct polynucleotides on a substrate.

The terms "element" and "array element" in a microarray context, refer to hybridizable polynucleotides arranged on the surface of a substrate.

The term "modulate" refers to a change in the activity of PPRG. For example, modulation may cause an increase or a decrease in protein activity, binding characteristics, or any other biological, functional, or immunological properties of PPRG.



The phrases "nucleic acid" or "nucleic acid sequence," as used herein, refer to a nucleotide, oligonucleotide, polynucleotide, or any fragment thereof. These phrases also refer to DNA or RNA of genomic or synthetic origin which may be single-stranded or double-stranded and may represent the sense or the antisense strand, to peptide nucleic acid (PNA), or to any 5 DNA-like or RNA-like material. In this context, "fragments" refers to those nucleic acid sequences which comprise a region of unique polynucleotide sequence that specifically identifies SEQ ID NO:21-40, for example, as distinct from any other sequence in the same genome. For example, a fragment of SEQ ID NO:21-40 is useful in hybridization and amplification technologies and in analogous methods that distinguish SEQ ID NO:21-40 from related polynucleotide sequences. A fragment of SEQ ID NO:21-40 is at least about 15-20 nucleotides in length. The precise length of the fragment of SEQ ID NO:21-40 and the region of SEQ ID NO:21-40 to which the fragment corresponds are routinely determinable by one of ordinary skill in the art based on the intended purpose for the fragment. In some cases, a fragment, when translated, would produce polypeptides retaining some functional characteristic, e.g., antigenicity, or structural domain characteristic, e.g., ATP-binding site, of the full-length polypeptide.

The terms "operably associated" and "operably linked" refer to functionally related nucleic acid sequences. A promoter is operably associated or operably linked with a coding sequence if the promoter controls the translation of the encoded polypeptide. While operably associated or operably linked nucleic acid sequences can be contiguous and in the same reading frame, certain genetic elements, e.g., repressor genes, are not contiguously linked to the sequence encoding the polypeptide but still bind to operator sequences that control expression of the polypeptide.

The term "oligonucleotide" refers to a nucleic acid sequence of at least about 6 nucleotides to 60 nucleotides, preferably about 15 to 30 nucleotides, and most preferably about 20 to 25 nucleotides, which can be used in PCR amplification or in a hybridization assay or microarray. "Oligonucleotide" is substantially equivalent to the terms "amplimer," "primer," "oligomer," and "probe," as these terms are commonly defined in the art.

"Peptide nucleic acid" (PNA) refers to an antisense molecule or anti-gene agent which comprises an oligonucleotide of at least about 5 nucleotides in length linked to a peptide backbone of amino acid residues ending in lysine. The terminal lysine confers solubility to the composition. PNAs preferentially bind complementary single stranded DNA or RNA and stop transcript elongation, and may be pegylated to extend their lifespan in the cell.

The term "sample" is used in its broadest sense. A sample suspected of containing nucleic acids encoding PPRG, or fragments thereof, or PPRG itself, may comprise a bodily fluid; an

PCT/US99/17818 WO 00/09709

extract from a cell, chromosome, organelle, or membrane isolated from a cell; a cell; genomic DNA, RNA, or cDNA, in solution or bound to a substrate; a tissue; a tissue print; etc.

The terms "specific binding" and "specifically binding" refer to that interaction between a protein or peptide and an agonist, an antibody, or an antagonist. The interaction is dependent upon the presence of a particular structure of the protein, e.g., the antigenic determinant or epitope, recognized by the binding molecule. For example, if an antibody is specific for epitope "A," the presence of a polypeptide containing the epitope A, or the presence of free unlabeled A, in a reaction containing free labeled A and the antibody will reduce the amount of labeled A that binds to the antibody.

The term "stringent conditions" refers to conditions which permit hybridization between polynucleotides and the claimed polynucleotides. Stringent conditions can be defined by salt concentration, the concentration of organic solvent, e.g., formamide, temperature, and other conditions well known in the art. In particular, stringency can be increased by reducing the concentration of salt, increasing the concentration of formamide, or raising the hybridization 15 temperature.

The term "substantially purified" refers to nucleic acid or amino acid sequences that are removed from their natural environment and are isolated or separated, and are at least about 60% free, preferably about 75% free, and most preferably about 90% free from other components with which they are naturally associated.

A "substitution" refers to the replacement of one or more amino acids or nucleotides by different amino acids or nucleotides, respectively.

"Substrate" refers to any suitable rigid or semi-rigid support including membranes, filters, chips, slides, wafers, fibers, magnetic or nonmagnetic beads, gels, tubing, plates, polymers, microparticles and capillaries. The substrate can have a variety of surface forms, such as wells, 25 trenches, pins, channels and pores, to which polynucleotides or polypeptides are bound.

"Transformation" describes a process by which exogenous DNA enters and changes a recipient cell. Transformation may occur under natural or artificial conditions according to various methods well known in the art, and may rely on any known method for the insertion of foreign nucleic acid sequences into a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell. The method for 30 transformation is selected based on the type of host cell being transformed and may include, but is not limited to, viral infection, electroporation, heat shock, lipofection, and particle bombardment. The term "transformed" cells includes stably transformed cells in which the inserted DNA is capable of replication either as an autonomously replicating plasmid or as part of the host chromosome, as well as transiently transformed cells which express the inserted DNA or RNA for

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WO 00/09709 PCT/US99/17818

' limited periods of time.

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A "variant" of PPRG polypeptides refers to an amino acid sequence that is altered by one or more amino acid residues. The variant may have "conservative" changes, wherein a substituted amino acid has similar structural or chemical properties (e.g., replacement of leucine with 5 isoleucine). More rarely, a variant may have "nonconservative" changes (e.g., replacement of glycine with tryptophan). Analogous minor variations may also include amino acid deletions or insertions, or both. Guidance in determining which amino acid residues may be substituted, inserted, or deleted without abolishing biological or immunological activity may be found using computer programs well known in the art, for example, LASERGENE software (DNASTAR).

The term "variant," when used in the context of a polynucleotide sequence, may encompass a polynucleotide sequence related to PPRG. This definition may also include, for example, "allelic" (as defined above), "splice," "species," or "polymorphic" variants. A splice variant may have significant identity to a reference molecule, but will generally have a greater or lesser number of polynucleotides due to alternate splicing of exons during mRNA processing. The 15 corresponding polypeptide may possess additional functional domains or an absence of domains. Species variants are polynucleotide sequences that vary from one species to another. The resulting polypeptides generally will have significant amino acid identity relative to each other. A polymorphic variant is a variation in the polynucleotide sequence of a particular gene between individuals of a given species. Polymorphic variants also may encompass "single nucleotide 20 polymorphisms" (SNPs) in which the polynucleotide sequence varies by one base. The presence of SNPs may be indicative of, for example, a certain population, a disease state, or a propensity for a disease state.

THE INVENTION

The invention is based on the discovery of new human proteases and associated proteins 25 (PPRG), the polynucleotides encoding PPRG, and the use of these compositions for the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of cell proliferative and immune disorders.

Table 1 lists the Incyte clones used to assemble full length nucleotide sequences encoding PPRG. Columns 1 and 2 show the sequence identification numbers (SEQ ID NOs) of the polypeptide and nucleotide sequences, respectively. Column 3 shows the clone IDs of the Incyte 30 clones in which nucleic acids encoding each PPRG were identified, and column 4 shows the cDNA libraries from which these clones were isolated. Column 5 shows Incyte clones and their corresponding cDNA libraries. Clones for which cDNA libraries are not indicated were derived from pooled cDNA libraries. The clones in column 5 were used to assemble the consensus nucleotide sequence of each PPRG and are useful as fragments in hybridization technologies.



The columns of Table 2 show various properties of each of the polypeptides of the invention: column 1 references the SEQ ID NO; column 2 shows the number of amino acid residues in each polypeptide; column 3 shows potential phosphorylation sites; column 4 shows potential glycosylation sites; column 5 shows the amino acid residues comprising signature sequences and motifs; column 6 shows the identity of each polypeptide; and column 7 shows analytical methods used to identify each polypeptide through sequence homology and protein motifs.

The columns of Table 3 show the tissue-specificity and diseases, disorders, or conditions associated with nucleotide sequences encoding PPRG. The first column of Table 3 lists the 10 nucleotide SEQ ID NOs. Column 2 lists tissue categories which express PPRG as a fraction of total tissue categories expressing PPRG. Column 3 lists diseases, disorders, or conditions associated with those tissues expressing PPRG. Column 4 lists the vectors used to subclone the cDNA library. Of particular note is the kidney-specific expression of SEQ ID NO:29 in 5 out of 7 libraries (71%). Also of note is expression of SEQ ID NO:34 in cervical tumor libraries (60%).

The columns of Table 4 show descriptions of the tissues used to construct the cDNA libraries from which cDNA clones encoding PPRG were isolated. Column 1 references the nucleotide SEQ ID NOs, column 2 shows the cDNA libraries from which these clones were isolated, and column 3 shows the tissue origins and other descriptive information relevant to the cDNA libraries in column 2.

The following fragments of the nucleotide sequences encoding PPRG are useful, for example, in hybridization or amplification technologies to identify SEQ ID NO:21-40 and to distinguish between SEQ ID NO:21-40 and related polynucleotide sequences. The useful fragments include the fragment of SEQ ID NO:21 from about nucleotide 1 to about nucleotide 56; the fragment of SEQ ID NO:22 from about nucleotide 161 to about nucleotide 213; the fragment 25 of SEQ ID NO:23 from about nucleotide 110 to about nucleotide 158; the fragment of SEQ ID NO:24 from about nucleotide 117 to about nucleotide 174; the fragment of SEQ ID NO:25 from about nucleotide 191 to about nucleotide 245; the fragment of SEQ ID NO:26 from about nucleotide 204 to about nucleotide 269; the fragment of SEQ ID NO:27 from about nucleotide 181 to about nucleotide 221; the fragments of SEQ ID NO:28 from about nucleotide 509 to about nucleotide 553, and from about nucleotide 1751 to about nucleotide 1795; the fragment of SEQ ID NO:29 from about nucleotide 326 to about nucletide 370; the fragment of SEQ ID NO:30 from about nucleotide 1190 to about nucleotide 1234; the fragment of SEQ ID NO:31 from about nucleotide 283 to about nucleotide 324; the fragment of SEQ ID NO:32 from about nucleotide 380 to about nucleotide 424; the fragments of SEQ ID NO:33 from about nucleotide 272 to about

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WO 00/09709

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nucleotide 316, and from about nucleotide 1784 to about nucleotide 1831; the fragment of SEQ ID NO:34 from about nucleotide 217 to about nucleotide 261; the fragment of SEQ ID NO:35 from about nucleotide 2397 to about nucleotide 2441; the fragment of SEQ ID NO:36 from about nucleotide 218 to about nucleotide 262; the fragments of SEQ ID NO:37 from about nucleotide 5 to about nucleotide 209, and from about nucleotide 651 to about nucleotide 695; the fragment of SEQ ID NO:38 from about nucleotide 812 to about nucleotide 856; the fragment of SEQ ID NO:39 from about nucleotide 541 to about nucleotide 585; and the fragment of SEQ ID NO:40 from about nucleotide 163 to about nucleotide 207. The polypeptides encoded by these fragments are useful, for example, as immunogenic peptides.

The invention also encompasses PPRG variants. A preferred PPRG variant is one which has at least about 80%, more preferably at least about 90%, and most preferably at least about 95% amino acid sequence identity to the PPRG amino acid sequence, and which contains at least one functional or structural characteristic of PPRG.

The invention also encompasses polynucleotides which encode PPRG. In a particular embodiment, the invention encompasses a polynucleotide sequence comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:21-40, which encodes PPRG.

The invention also encompasses a variant of a polynucleotide sequence encoding PPRG. In particular, such a variant polynucleotide sequence will have at least about 80%, more preferably at least about 90%, and most preferably at least about 95% polynucleotide sequence identity to the polynucleotide sequence encoding PPRG. A particular aspect of the invention encompasses a variant of a polynucleotide sequence comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:21-40 which has at least about 80%, more preferably at least about 90%, and most preferably at least about 95% polynucleotide sequence identity to a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:21-40. Any one of the polynucleotide variants described above can encode an amino acid sequence which contains at least one functional or structural characteristic of PPRG.

It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that as a result of the degeneracy of the genetic code, a multitude of polynucleotide sequences encoding PPRG, some bearing minimal similarity to the polynucleotide sequences of any known and naturally occurring gene, may be produced. Thus, the invention contemplates each and every possible variation of polynucleotide sequence that could be made by selecting combinations based on possible codon choices. These combinations are made in accordance with the standard triplet genetic code as applied to the polynucleotide sequence of naturally occurring PPRG, and all such variations are to be considered as being specifically disclosed.





Although nucleotide sequences which encode PPRG and its variants are preferably capable of hybridizing to the nucleotide sequence of the naturally occurring PPRG under appropriately selected conditions of stringency, it may be advantageous to produce nucleotide sequences encoding PPRG or its derivatives possessing a substantially different codon usage, e.g., inclusion of non-naturally occurring codons. Codons may be selected to increase the rate at which expression of the peptide occurs in a particular prokaryotic or eukaryotic host in accordance with the frequency with which particular codons are utilized by the host. Other reasons for substantially altering the nucleotide sequence encoding PPRG and its derivatives without altering the encoded amino acid sequences include the production of RNA transcripts having more desirable properties, such as a greater half-life, than transcripts produced from the naturally occurring sequence.

The invention also encompasses production of DNA sequences which encode PPRG and PPRG derivatives, or fragments thereof, entirely by synthetic chemistry. After production, the synthetic sequence may be inserted into any of the many available expression vectors and cell systems using reagents well known in the art. Moreover, synthetic chemistry may be used to introduce mutations into a sequence encoding PPRG or any fragment thereof.

Also encompassed by the invention are polynucleotide sequences that are capable of hybridizing to the claimed polynucleotide sequences, and, in particular, to those shown in SEQ ID NO:21-40 and fragments thereof under various conditions of stringency. (See, e.g., Wahl, G.M. and S.L. Berger (1987) Methods Enzymol. 152:399-407; Kimmel, A.R. (1987) Methods Enzymol. 152:507-511.) For example, stringent salt concentration will ordinarily be less than about 750 mM NaCl and 75 mM trisodium citrate, preferably less than about 500 mM NaCl and 50 mM trisodium citrate, and most preferably less than about 250 mM NaCl and 25 mM trisodium citrate. Low stringency hybridization can be obtained in the absence of organic solvent, e.g., formamide, while 25 high stringency hybridization can be obtained in the presence of at least about 35% formamide, and most preferably at least about 50% formamide. Stringent temperature conditions will ordinarily include temperatures of at least about 30°C, more preferably of at least about 37°C, and most preferably of at least about 42°C. Varying additional parameters, such as hybridization time, the concentration of detergent, e.g., sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS), and the inclusion or exclusion of carrier DNA, are well known to those skilled in the art. Various levels of stringency are accomplished by combining these various conditions as needed. In a preferred embodiment, hybridization will occur at 30°C in 750 mM NaCl, 75 mM trisodium citrate, and 1% SDS. In a more preferred embodiment, hybridization will occur at 37°C in 500 mM NaCl, 50 mM trisodium citrate, 1% SDS, 35% formamide, and 100 µg/ml denatured salmon sperm DNA (ssDNA). In a



most preferred embodiment, hybridization will occur at 42°C in 250 mM NaCl, 25 mM trisodium citrate, 1% SDS, 50 % formamide, and 200 μ g/ml ssDNA. Useful variations on these conditions will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art.

The washing steps which follow hybridization can also vary in stringency. Wash

5 stringency conditions can be defined by salt concentration and by temperature. As above, wash

5 stringency can be increased by decreasing salt concentration or by increasing temperature. For

6 example, stringent salt concentration for the wash steps will preferably be less than about 30 mM

7 NaCl and 3 mM trisodium citrate, and most preferably less than about 15 mM NaCl and 1.5 mM

7 trisodium citrate. Stringent temperature conditions for the wash steps will ordinarily include

8 temperature of at least about 25°C, more preferably of at least about 42°C, and most preferably of

8 at least about 68°C. In a preferred embodiment, wash steps will occur at 25°C in 30 mM NaCl, 3

8 mM trisodium citrate, and 0.1% SDS. In a more preferred embodiment, wash steps will occur at

9 42°C in 15 mM NaCl, 1.5 mM trisodium citrate, and 0.1% SDS. In a most preferred embodiment,

9 wash steps will occur at 68°C in 15 mM NaCl, 1.5 mM trisodium citrate, and 0.1% SDS.

8 Additional variations on these conditions will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art.

Methods for DNA sequencing are well known in the art and may be used to practice any of the embodiments of the invention. The methods may employ such enzymes as the Klenow fragment of DNA polymerase I, SEQUENASE (US Biochemical, Cleveland OH), Taq polymerase (Perkin-Elmer), thermostable T7 polymerase (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech, Piscataway NJ), or combinations of polymerases and proofreading exonucleases such as those found in the ELONGASE amplification system (Life Technologies, Gaithersburg MD). Preferably, sequence preparation is automated with machines such as the Hamilton MICROLAB 2200 (Hamilton, Reno NV), Peltier thermal cycler 200 (PTC200; MJ Research, Watertown MA) and the ABI

CATALYST 800 (Perkin-Elmer). Sequencing is then carried out using either ABI 373 or 377

DNA sequencing systems (Perkin-Elmer), the MEGABACE 1000 DNA sequencing system (Molecular Dynamics, Sunnyvale CA), or other systems known in the art. The resulting sequences are analyzed using a variety of algorithms which are well known in the art. (See, e.g., Ausubel, F.M. (1997) Short Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons, New York NY, unit 7.7; Meyers, R.A. (1995) Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, Wiley VCH, New York NY, pp. 856-853.)

The nucleic acid sequences encoding PPRG may be extended utilizing a partial nucleotide sequence and employing various PCR-based methods known in the art to detect upstream sequences, such as promoters and regulatory elements. For example, one method which may be employed, restriction-site PCR, uses universal and nested primers to amplify unknown sequence



from genomic DNA within a cloning vector. (See, e.g., Sarkar, G. (1993) PCR Methods Applic. 2:318-322.) Another method, inverse PCR, uses primers that extend in divergent directions to amplify unknown sequence from a circularized template. The template is derived from restriction fragments comprising a known genomic locus and surrounding sequences. (See, e.g., Triglia, T. et 5 al. (1988) Nucleic Acids Res. 16:8186.) A third method, capture PCR, involves PCR amplification of DNA fragments adjacent to known sequences in human and yeast artificial chromosome DNA. (See, e.g., Lagerstrom, M. et al. (1991) PCR Methods Applic. 1:111-119.) In this method, multiple restriction enzyme digestions and ligations may be used to insert an engineered double-stranded sequence into a region of unknown sequence before performing PCR. 10 Other methods which may be used to retrieve unknown sequences are known in the art. (See, e.g., Parker, J.D. et al. (1991) Nucleic Acids Res. 19:3055-3060). Additionally, one may use PCR. nested primers, and PROMOTERFINDER libraries (Clontech, Palo Alto CA) to walk genomic DNA. This procedure avoids the need to screen libraries and is useful in finding intron/exon junctions. For all PCR-based methods, primers may be designed using commercially available software, such as OLIGO 4.06 Primer Analysis software (National Biosciences, Plymouth MN) or another appropriate program, to be about 22 to 30 nucleotides in length, to have a GC content of about 50% or more, and to anneal to the template at temperatures of about 68°C to 72°C.

When screening for full-length cDNAs, it is preferable to use libraries that have been size-selected to include larger cDNAs. In addition, random-primed libraries, which often include sequences containing the 5' regions of genes, are preferable for situations in which an oligo d(T) library does not yield a full-length cDNA. Genomic libraries may be useful for extension of sequence into 5' non-transcribed regulatory regions.

Capillary electrophoresis systems which are commercially available may be used to analyze the size or confirm the nucleotide sequence of sequencing or PCR products. In particular, capillary sequencing may employ flowable polymers for electrophoretic separation, four different nucleotide-specific, laser-stimulated fluorescent dyes, and a charge coupled device camera for detection of the emitted wavelengths. Output/light intensity may be converted to electrical signal using appropriate software (e.g., GENOTYPER and SEQUENCE NAVIGATOR, Perkin-Elmer), and the entire process from loading of samples to computer analysis and electronic data display may be computer controlled. Capillary electrophoresis is especially preferable for sequencing small DNA fragments which may be present in limited amounts in a particular sample.

In another embodiment of the invention, polynucleotide sequences or fragments thereof which encode PPRG may be cloned in recombinant DNA molecules that direct expression of PPRG, or fragments or functional equivalents thereof, in appropriate host cells. Due to the



inherent degeneracy of the genetic code, other DNA sequences which encode substantially the same or a functionally equivalent amino acid sequence may be produced and used to express PPRG.

The nucleotide sequences of the present invention can be engineered using methods

generally known in the art in order to alter PPRG-encoding sequences for a variety of purposes including, but not limited to, modification of the cloning, processing, and/or expression of the gene product. DNA shuffling by random fragmentation and PCR reassembly of gene fragments and synthetic oligonucleotides may be used to engineer the nucleotide sequences. For example, oligonucleotide-mediated site-directed mutagenesis may be used to introduce mutations that create new restriction sites, alter glycosylation patterns, change codon preference, produce splice variants, and so forth.

In another embodiment, sequences encoding PPRG may be synthesized, in whole or in part, using chemical methods well known in the art. (See, e.g., Caruthers, M.H. et al. (1980)

Nucleic Acids Symp. Ser. 7:215-223; Horn, T. et al. (1980) Nucleic Acids Symp. Ser. 7:225-232.)

Alternatively, PPRG itself or a fragment thereof may be synthesized using chemical methods. For example, peptide synthesis can be performed using various solid-phase techniques. (See, e.g., Roberge, J.Y. et al. (1995) Science 269:202-204.) Automated synthesis may be achieved using the ABI 431A peptide synthesizer (Perkin-Elmer). Additionally, the amino acid sequence of PPRG, or any part thereof, may be altered during direct synthesis and/or combined with sequences from other proteins, or any part thereof, to produce a variant polypeptide.

The peptide may be substantially purified by preparative high performance liquid chromatography. (See, e.g, Chiez, R.M. and F.Z. Regnier (1990) Methods Enzymol. 182:392-421.) The composition of the synthetic peptides may be confirmed by amino acid analysis or by sequencing. (See, e.g., Creighton, T. (1984) Proteins, Structures and Molecular Properties, WH Freeman, New York NY.)

In order to express a biologically active PPRG, the nucleotide sequences encoding PPRG or derivatives thereof may be inserted into an appropriate expression vector, i.e., a vector which contains the necessary elements for transcriptional and translational control of the inserted coding sequence in a suitable host. These elements include regulatory sequences, such as enhancers, constitutive and inducible promoters, and 5' and 3' untranslated regions in the vector and in polynucleotide sequences encoding PPRG. Such elements may vary in their strength and specificity. Specific initiation signals may also be used to achieve more efficient translation of sequences encoding PPRG. Such signals include the ATG initiation codon and adjacent sequences, e.g. the Kozak sequence. In cases where sequences encoding PPRG and its initiation

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codon and upstream regulatory sequences are inserted into the appropriate expression vector, no additional transcriptional or translational control signals may be needed. However, in cases where only coding sequence, or a fragment thereof, is inserted, exogenous translational control signals including an in-frame ATG initiation codon should be provided by the vector. Exogenous translational elements and initiation codons may be of various origins, both natural and synthetic. The efficiency of expression may be enhanced by the inclusion of enhancers appropriate for the particular host cell system used. (See, e.g., Scharf, D. et al. (1994) Results Probl. Cell Differ. 20:125-162.)

Methods which are well known to those skilled in the art may be used to construct expression vectors containing sequences encoding PPRG and appropriate transcriptional and translational control elements. These methods include in vitro recombinant DNA techniques, synthetic techniques, and in vivo genetic recombination. (See, e.g., Sambrook, J. et al. (1989) Molecular Cloning, A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Press, Plainview NY, ch. 4, 8, and 16-17; Ausubel, F.M. et al. (1995) Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons, New York NY, ch. 9, 13, and 16.)

A variety of expression vector/host systems may be utilized to contain and express sequences encoding PPRG. These include, but are not limited to, microorganisms such as bacteria transformed with recombinant bacteriophage, plasmid, or cosmid DNA expression vectors; yeast transformed with yeast expression vectors; insect cell systems infected with viral expression vectors (e.g., baculovirus); plant cell systems transformed with viral expression vectors (e.g., cauliflower mosaic virus, CaMV, or tobacco mosaic virus, TMV) or with bacterial expression vectors (e.g., Ti or pBR322 plasmids); or animal cell systems. The invention is not limited by the host cell employed.

In bacterial systems, a number of cloning and expression vectors may be selected

depending upon the use intended for polynucleotide sequences encoding PPRG. For example, routine cloning, subcloning, and propagation of polynucleotide sequences encoding PPRG can be achieved using a multifunctional <u>E. coli</u> vector such as PBLUESCRIPT (Stratagene, La Jolla CA) or pSPORT1 plasmid (Life Technologies). Ligation of sequences encoding PPRG into the vector's multiple cloning site disrupts the *lacZ* gene, allowing a colorimetric screening procedure for identification of transformed bacteria containing recombinant molecules. In addition, these vectors may be useful for <u>in vitro</u> transcription, dideoxy sequencing, single strand rescue with helper phage, and creation of nested deletions in the cloned sequence. (See, e.g., Van Heeke, G. and S.M. Schuster (1989) J. Biol. Chem. 264:5503-5509.) When large quantities of PPRG are needed, e.g. for the production of antibodies, vectors which direct high level expression of PPRG



may be used. For example, vectors containing the strong, inducible T5 or T7 bacteriophage promoter may be used.

Yeast expression systems may be used for production of PPRG. A number of vectors containing constitutive or inducible promoters, such as alpha factor, alcohol oxidase, and PGH promoters, may be used in the yeast <u>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</u> or <u>Pichia pastoris</u>. In addition, such vectors direct either the secretion or intracellular retention of expressed proteins and enable integration of foreign sequences into the host genome for stable propagation. (See, e.g., Ausubel, 1995, <u>supra</u>; Grant et al. (1987) Methods Enzymol. 153:516-54; and Scorer, C. A. et al. (1994) Bio/Technology 12:181-184.)

Plant systems may also be used for expression of PPRG. Transcription of sequences encoding PPRG may be driven viral promoters, e.g., the 35S and 19S promoters of CaMV used alone or in combination with the omega leader sequence from TMV (Takamatsu, N. (1987) EMBO J. 6:307-311). Alternatively, plant promoters such as the small subunit of RUBISCO or heat shock promoters may be used. (See, e.g., Coruzzi, G. et al. (1984) EMBO J. 3:1671-1680; Broglie, R. et al. (1984) Science 224:838-843; and Winter, J. et al. (1991) Results Probl. Cell Differ. 17:85-105.) These constructs can be introduced into plant cells by direct DNA transformation or pathogen-mediated transfection. (See, e.g., The McGraw Hill Yearbook of Science and Technology (1992) McGraw Hill, New York NY, pp. 191-196.)

In mammalian cells, a number of viral-based expression systems may be utilized. In cases where an adenovirus is used as an expression vector, sequences encoding PPRG may be ligated into an adenovirus transcription/translation complex consisting of the late promoter and tripartite leader sequence. Insertion in a non-essential E1 or E3 region of the viral genome may be used to obtain infective virus which expresses PPRG in host cells. (See, e.g., Logan, J. and T. Shenk (1984) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 81:3655-3659.) In addition, transcription enhancers, such as the Rous sarcoma virus (RSV) enhancer, may be used to increase expression in mammalian host cells. SV40 or EBV-based vectors may also be used for high-level protein expression.

Human artificial chromosomes (HACs) may also be employed to deliver larger fragments of DNA than can be contained in and expressed from a plasmid. HACs of about 6 kb to 10 Mb are constructed and delivered via conventional delivery methods (liposomes, polycationic amino polymers, or vesicles) for therapeutic purposes. (See, e.g., Harrington, J.J. et al. (1997) Nat. Genet. 15:345-355.)

For long term production of recombinant proteins in mammalian systems, stable expression of PPRG in cell lines is preferred. For example, sequences encoding PPRG can be transformed into cell lines using expression vectors which may contain viral origins of replication



WO 00/09709 PCT/US99/17818

and/or endogenous expression elements and a selectable marker gene on the same or on a separate vector. Following the introduction of the vector, cells may be allowed to grow for about 1 to 2 days in enriched media before being switched to selective media. The purpose of the selectable marker is to confer resistance to a selective agent, and its presence allows growth and recovery of cells which successfully express the introduced sequences. Resistant clones of stably transformed cells may be propagated using tissue culture techniques appropriate to the cell type.

Any number of selection systems may be used to recover transformed cell lines. These include, but are not limited to, the herpes simplex virus thymidine kinase and adenine phosphoribosyltransferase genes, for use in tk or apr cells, respectively. (See, e.g., Wigler, M. et al. (1977) Cell 11:223-232; Lowy, I. et al. (1980) Cell 22:817-823.) Also, antimetabolite, antibiotic, or herbicide resistance can be used as the basis for selection. For example, dhfr confers resistance to methotrexate; neo confers resistance to the aminoglycosides neomycin and G-418; and als or pat confer resistance to chlorsulfuron and phosphinotricin acetyltransferase, respectively. (See, e.g., Wigler, M. et al. (1980) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 77:3567-3570; Colbere-Garapin, F. et al. (1981) J. Mol. Biol. 150:1-14.) Additional selectable genes have been described, e.g., trpB and hisD, which alter cellular requirements for metabolites. (See, e.g., Hartman, S.C. and R.C. Mulligan (1988) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 85:8047-8051.) Visible markers, e.g., anthocyanins, green fluorescent proteins (GFP; Clontech), ß glucuronidase and its substrate B-glucuronide, or luciferase and its substrate luciferin may be used. These markers can be used not only to identify transformants, but also to quantify the amount of transient or stable protein expression attributable to a specific vector system. (See, e.g., Rhodes, C.A. (1995) Methods Mol. Biol. 55:121-131.)

Although the presence/absence of marker gene expression suggests that the gene of interest is also present, the presence and expression of the gene may need to be confirmed. For example, if the sequence encoding PPRG is inserted within a marker gene sequence, transformed cells containing sequences encoding PPRG can be identified by the absence of marker gene function. Alternatively, a marker gene can be placed in tandem with a sequence encoding PPRG under the control of a single promoter. Expression of the marker gene in response to induction or selection usually indicates expression of the tandem gene as well.

In general, host cells that contain the nucleic acid sequence encoding PPRG and that express PPRG may be identified by a variety of procedures known to those of skill in the art.

These procedures include, but are not limited to, DNA-DNA or DNA-RNA hybridizations, PCR amplification, and protein bioassay or immunoassay techniques which include membrane, solution, or chip based technologies for the detection and/or quantification of nucleic acid or



protein sequences.

Immunological methods for detecting and measuring the expression of PPRG using either specific polyclonal or monoclonal antibodies are known in the art. Examples of such techniques include enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (ELISAs), radioimmunoassays (RIAs), and 5 fluorescence activated cell sorting (FACS). A two-site, monoclonal-based immunoassay utilizing monoclonal antibodies reactive to two non-interfering epitopes on PPRG is preferred, but a competitive binding assay may be employed. These and other assays are well known in the art. (See, e.g., Hampton, R. et al. (1990) Serological Methods, a Laboratory Manual, APS Press, St. Paul MN, Sect. IV; Coligan, J.E. et al. (1997) Current Protocols in Immunology, Greene Pub. 10 Associates and Wiley-Interscience, New York NY; and Pound, J.D. (1998) Immunochemical Protocols, Humana Press, Totowa NJ).

A wide variety of labels and conjugation techniques are known by those skilled in the art and may be used in various nucleic acid and amino acid assays. Means for producing labeled hybridization or PCR probes for detecting sequences related to polynucleotides encoding PPRG 15 include oligolabeling, nick translation, end-labeling, or PCR amplification using a labeled nucleotide. Alternatively, the sequences encoding PPRG, or any fragments thereof, may be cloned into a vector for the production of an mRNA probe. Such vectors are known in the art, are commercially available, and may be used to synthesize RNA probes in vitro by addition of an appropriate RNA polymerase such as T7, T3, or SP6 and labeled nucleotides. These procedures 20 may be conducted using a variety of commercially available kits, such as those provided by Amersham Pharmacia Biotech, Promega (Madison WI), and US Biochemical. Suitable reporter molecules or labels which may be used for ease of detection include radionuclides, enzymes, fluorescent, chemiluminescent, or chromogenic agents, as well as substrates, cofactors, inhibitors, magnetic particles, and the like.

Host cells transformed with nucleotide sequences encoding PPRG may be cultured under conditions suitable for the expression and recovery of the protein from cell culture. The protein produced by a transformed cell may be secreted or retained intracellularly depending on the sequence and/or the vector used. As will be understood by those of skill in the art, expression vectors containing polynucleotides which encode PPRG may be designed to contain signal 30 sequences which direct secretion of PPRG through a prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell membrane.

In addition, a host cell strain may be chosen for its ability to modulate expression of the inserted sequences or to process the expressed protein in the desired fashion. Such modifications of the polypeptide include, but are not limited to, acetylation, carboxylation, glycosylation, phosphorylation, lipidation, and acylation. Post-translational processing which cleaves a "prepro"



form of the protein may also be used to specify protein targeting, folding, and/or activity. Different host cells which have specific cellular machinery and characteristic mechanisms for post-translational activities (e.g., CHO, HeLa, MDCK, HEK293, and WI38), are available from the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC, Bethesda MD) and may be chosen to ensure the correct modification and processing of the foreign protein.

In another embodiment of the invention, natural, modified, or recombinant nucleic acid sequences encoding PPRG may be ligated to a heterologous sequence resulting in translation of a fusion protein in any of the aforementioned host systems. For example, a chimeric PPRG protein containing a heterologous moiety that can be recognized by a commercially available antibody 10 may facilitate the screening of peptide libraries for inhibitors of PPRG activity. Heterologous protein and peptide moieties may also facilitate purification of fusion proteins using commercially available affinity matrices. Such moieties include, but are not limited to, glutathione S-transferase (GST), maltose binding protein (MBP), thioredoxin (Trx), calmodulin binding peptide (CBP), 6-His, FLAG, c-myc, and hemagglutinin (HA). GST, MBP, Trx, CBP, and 6-His enable purification 15 of their cognate fusion proteins on immobilized glutathione, maltose, phenylarsine oxide, calmodulin, and metal-chelate resins, respectively. FLAG, c-myc, and hemagglutinin (HA) enable immunoaffinity purification of fusion proteins using commercially available monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies that specifically recognize these epitope tags. A fusion protein may also be engineered to contain a proteolytic cleavage site located between the PPRG encoding sequence and the heterologous protein sequence, so that PPRG may be cleaved away from the heterologous moiety following purification. Methods for fusion protein expression and purification are discussed in Ausubel (1995, supra, ch 10). A variety of commercially available kits may also be used to facilitate expression and purification of fusion proteins.

In a further embodiment of the invention, synthesis of radiolabeled PPRG may be achieved in vitro using the TNT rabbit reticulocyte lysate or wheat germ extract systems (Promega). These systems couple transcription and translation of protein-coding sequences operably associated with the T7, T3, or SP6 promoters. Translation takes place in the presence of a radiolabeled amino acid precursor, preferably 35S-methionine.

Fragments of PPRG may be produced not only by recombinant production, but also by direct peptide synthesis using solid-phase techniques. (See, e.g., Creighton, supra, pp. 55-60.) Protein synthesis may be performed by manual techniques or by automation. Automated synthesis may be achieved, for example, using the ABI 431A peptide synthesizer (Perkin-Elmer). Various fragments of PPRG may be synthesized separately and then combined to produce the full length molecule.



THERAPEUTICS

10

Chemical and structural similarity, e.g., in the context of sequences and motifs, exists between regions of PPRG and proteases and associated proteins. In addition, the expression of PPRG is closely associated with cell proliferative conditions, including cancer, and with inflammation and the immune response. Therefore, PPRG appears to play a role in cell proliferative and immune disorders. In the treatment of cell proliferative and immune disorders associated with increased PPRG expression or activity, it is desirable to decrease the expression or activity of PPRG. In the treatment of the above conditions associated with decreased PPRG expression or activity, it is desirable to increase the expression or activity of PPRG.

Therefore, in one embodiment, PPRG or a fragment or derivative thereof may be administered to a subject to treat or prevent a disorder associated with decreased expression or, activity of PPRG. Examples of such disorders include, but are not limited to, a cell proliferative disorder such as actinic keratosis, arteriosclerosis, atherosclerosis, bursitis, cirrhosis, hepatitis, mixed connective tissue disease (MCTD), myelofibrosis, paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria, 15 polycythemia vera, psoriasis, primary thrombocythemia, and cancers including adenocarcinoma, leukemia, lymphoma, melanoma, myeloma, sarcoma, teratocarcinoma, and, in particular, cancers of the adrenal gland, bladder, bone, bone marrow, brain, breast, cervix, gall bladder, ganglia, gastrointestinal tract, heart, kidney, liver, lung, muscle, ovary, pancreas, parathyroid, penis, prostate, salivary glands, skin, spleen, testis, thymus, thyroid, and uterus; and an immune disorder such as acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), Addison's disease, adult respiratory distress syndrome, allergies, ankylosing spondylitis, amyloidosis, anemia, asthma, atherosclerosis, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, autoimmune thyroiditis, autoimmune polyenodocrinopathycandidiasis-ectodermal dystrophy (APECED), bronchitis, cholecystitis, contact dermatitis, Crohn's disease, atopic dermatitis, dermatomyositis, diabetes mellitus, emphysema, episodic lymphopenia 25 with lymphocytotoxins, erythroblastosis fetalis, erythema nodosum, atrophic gastritis, glomerulonephritis, Goodpasture's syndrome, gout, Graves' disease, Hashimoto's thyroiditis, hypereosinophilia, irritable bowel syndrome, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis, myocardial or pericardial inflammation, osteoarthritis, osteoporosis, pancreatitis, polymyositis, psoriasis, Reiter's syndrome, rheumatoid arthritis, scleroderma, Sjögren's syndrome, systemic anaphylaxis, systemic 30 lupus erythematosus, systemic sclerosis, thrombocytopenic purpura, ulcerative colitis, uveitis, Werner syndrome, complications of cancer, hemodialysis, and extracorporeal circulation, viral, bacterial, fungal, parasitic, protozoal, and helminthic infections, and trauma.

In another embodiment, a vector capable of expressing PPRG or a fragment or derivative thereof may be administered to a subject to treat or prevent a disorder associated with decreased



expression or activity of PPRG including, but not limited to, those described above.

In a further embodiment, a pharmaceutical composition comprising a substantially purified PPRG in conjunction with a suitable pharmaceutical carrier may be administered to a subject to treat or prevent a disorder associated with decreased expression or activity of PPRG including, but not limited to, those provided above.

In still another embodiment, an agonist which modulates the activity of PPRG may be administered to a subject to treat or prevent a disorder associated with decreased expression or activity of PPRG including, but not limited to, those listed above.

In a further embodiment, an antagonist of PPRG may be administered to a subject to treat or prevent a disorder associated with increased expression or activity of PPRG. Examples of such disorders include, but are not limited to, those described above. In one aspect, an antibody which specifically binds PPRG may be used directly as an antagonist or indirectly as a targeting or delivery mechanism for bringing a pharmaceutical agent to cells or tissue which express PPRG.

In an additional embodiment, a vector expressing the complement of the polynucleotide encoding PPRG may be administered to a subject to treat or prevent a disorder associated with increased expression or activity of PPRG including, but not limited to, those described above.

In other embodiments, any of the proteins, antagonists, antibodies, agonists, complementary sequences, or vectors of the invention may be administered in combination with other appropriate therapeutic agents. Selection of the appropriate agents for use in combination therapy may be made by one of ordinary skill in the art, according to conventional pharmaceutical principles. The combination of therapeutic agents may act synergistically to effect the treatment or prevention of the various disorders described above. Using this approach, one may be able to achieve therapeutic efficacy with lower dosages of each agent, thus reducing the potential for adverse side effects.

An antagonist of PPRG may be produced using methods which are generally known in the art. In particular, purified PPRG may be used to produce antibodies or to screen libraries of pharmaceutical agents to identify those which specifically bind PPRG. Antibodies to PPRG may also be generated using methods that are well known in the art. Such antibodies may include, but are not limited to, polyclonal, monoclonal, chimeric, and single chain antibodies, Fab fragments, and fragments produced by a Fab expression library. Neutralizing antibodies (i.e., those which inhibit dimer formation) are especially preferred for therapeutic use.

For the production of antibodies, various hosts including goats, rabbits, rats, mice, humans, and others may be immunized by injection with PPRG or with any fragment or oligopeptide thereof which has immunogenic properties. Depending on the host species, various

WO 00/09709

adjuvants may be used to increase immunological response. Such adjuvants include, but are not limited to, Freund's, mineral gels such as aluminum hydroxide, and surface active substances such as lysolecithin, pluronic polyols, polyanions, peptides, oil emulsions, KLH, and dinitrophenol.

Among adjuvants used in humans, BCG (bacilli Calmette-Guerin) and Corynebacterium parvum are especially preferable.

It is preferred that the oligopeptides, peptides, or fragments used to induce antibodies to PPRG have an amino acid sequence consisting of at least about 5 amino acids, and, more preferably, of at least about 10 amino acids. It is also preferable that these oligopeptides, peptides, or fragments are identical to a portion of the amino acid sequence of the natural protein and contain the entire amino acid sequence of a small, naturally occurring molecule. Short stretches of PPRG amino acids may be fused with those of another protein, such as KLH, and antibodies to the chimeric molecule may be produced.

Monoclonal antibodies to PPRG may be prepared using any technique which provides for the production of antibody molecules by continuous cell lines in culture. These include, but are not limited to, the hybridoma technique, the human B-cell hybridoma technique, and the EBV-hybridoma technique. (See, e.g., Kohler, G. et al. (1975) Nature 256:495-497; Kozbor, D. et al. (1985) J. Immunol. Methods 81:31-42; Cote, R.J. et al. (1983) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 80:2026-2030; and Cole, S.P. et al. (1984) Mol. Cell Biol. 62:109-120.)

In addition, techniques developed for the production of "chimeric antibodies," such as the splicing of mouse antibody genes to human antibody genes to obtain a molecule with appropriate antigen specificity and biological activity, can be used. (See, e.g., Morrison, S.L. et al. (1984) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 81:6851-6855; Neuberger, M.S. et al. (1984) Nature 312:604-608; and Takeda, S. et al. (1985) Nature 314:452-454.) Alternatively, techniques described for the production of single chain antibodies may be adapted, using methods known in the art, to produce PPRG-specific single chain antibodies. Antibodies with related specificity, but of distinct idiotypic composition, may be generated by chain shuffling from random combinatorial immunoglobulin libraries. (See, e.g., Burton D.R. (1991) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 88:10134-10137.)

Antibodies may also be produced by inducing in vivo production in the lymphocyte population or by screening immunoglobulin libraries or panels of highly specific binding reagents as disclosed in the literature. (See, e.g., Orlandi, R. et al. (1989) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 86: 3833-3837; Winter, G. et al. (1991) Nature 349:293-299.)

Antibody fragments which contain specific binding sites for PPRG may also be generated. For example, such fragments include, but are not limited to, F(ab')2 fragments produced by

5



pepsin digestion of the antibody molecule and Fab fragments generated by reducing the disulfide bridges of the F(ab')2 fragments. Alternatively, Fab expression libraries may be constructed to allow rapid and easy identification of monoclonal Fab fragments with the desired specificity. (See, e.g., Huse, W.D. et al. (1989) Science 246:1275-1281.)

Various immunoassays may be used for screening to identify antibodies having the desired specificity. Numerous protocols for competitive binding or immunoradiometric assays using either polyclonal or monoclonal antibodies with established specificities are well known in the art. Such immunoassays typically involve the measurement of complex formation between PPRG and its specific antibody. A two-site, monoclonal-based immunoassay utilizing monoclonal 10 antibodies reactive to two non-interfering PPRG epitopes is preferred, but a competitive binding assay may also be employed (Pound, supra).

Various methods such as Scatchard analysis in conjunction with radioimmunoassay techniques may be used to assess the affinity of antibodies for PPRG. Affinity is expressed as an association constant, Ka, which is defined as the molar concentration of PPRG-antibody complex divided by the molar concentrations of free antigen and free antibody under equilibrium conditions. The K_a determined for a preparation of polyclonal antibodies, which are heterogeneous in their affinities for multiple PPRG epitopes, represents the average affinity, or avidity, of the antibodies for PPRG. The K, determined for a preparation of monoclonal antibodies, which are monospecific for a particular PPRG epitope, represents a true measure of 20 affinity. High-affinity antibody preparations with K_a ranging from about 10^9 to 10^{12} L/mole are preferred for use in immunoassays in which the PPRG-antibody complex must withstand rigorous manipulations. Low-affinity antibody preparations with K_a ranging from about 10⁶ to 10⁷ L/mole are preferred for use in immunopurification and similar procedures which ultimately require dissociation of PPRG, preferably in active form, from the antibody (Catty, D. (1988) Antibodies, Volume I: A Practical Approach, IRL Press, Washington, DC; Liddell, J.E. and Cryer, A. (1991) A Practical Guide to Monoclonal Antibodies, John Wiley & Sons, New York NY).

The titer and avidity of polyclonal antibody preparations may be further evaluated to determine the quality and suitability of such preparations for certain downstream applications. For example, a polyclonal antibody preparation containing at least 1-2 mg specific antibody/ml, preferably 5-10 mg specific antibody/ml, is preferred for use in procedures requiring precipitation of PPRG-antibody complexes. Procedures for evaluating antibody specificity, titer, and avidity, and guidelines for antibody quality and usage in various applications, are generally available. (See, e.g., Catty, supra, and Coligan et al. supra.)

In another embodiment of the invention, the polynucleotides encoding PPRG, or any

WO 00/09709

fragment or complement thereof, may be used for therapeutic purposes. In one aspect, the complement of the polynucleotide encoding PPRG may be used in situations in which it would be desirable to block the transcription of the mRNA. In particular, cells may be transformed with sequences complementary to polynucleotides encoding PPRG. Thus, complementary molecules or fragments may be used to modulate PPRG activity, or to achieve regulation of gene function. Such technology is now well known in the art, and sense or antisense oligonucleotides or larger fragments can be designed from various locations along the coding or control regions of sequences encoding PPRG.

Expression vectors derived from retroviruses, adenoviruses, or herpes or vaccinia viruses, or from various bacterial plasmids, may be used for delivery of nucleotide sequences to the targeted organ, tissue, or cell population. Methods which are well known to those skilled in the art can be used to construct vectors to express nucleic acid sequences complementary to the polynucleotides encoding PPRG. (See, e.g., Sambrook, supra; Ausubel, 1995, supra.)

Genes encoding PPRG can be turned off by transforming a cell or tissue with expression vectors which express high levels of a polynucleotide, or fragment thereof, encoding PPRG. Such constructs may be used to introduce untranslatable sense or antisense sequences into a cell. Even in the absence of integration into the DNA, such vectors may continue to transcribe RNA molecules until they are disabled by endogenous nucleases. Transient expression may last for a month or more with a non-replicating vector, and may last even longer if appropriate replication elements are part of the vector system.

As mentioned above, modifications of gene expression can be obtained by designing complementary sequences or antisense molecules (DNA, RNA, or PNA) to the control, 5', or regulatory regions of the gene encoding PPRG. Oligonucleotides derived from the transcription initiation site, e.g., between about positions -10 and +10 from the start site, are preferred. Similarly, inhibition can be achieved using triple helix base-pairing methodology. Triple helix pairing is useful because it causes inhibition of the ability of the double helix to open sufficiently for the binding of polymerases, transcription factors, or regulatory molecules. Recent therapeutic advances using triplex DNA have been described in the literature. (See, e.g., Gee, J.E. et al. (1994) in Huber, B.E. and B.I. Carr, Molecular and Immunologic Approaches, Futura Publishing, Mt. Kisco NY, pp. 163-177.) A complementary sequence or antisense molecule may also be

designed to block translation of mRNA by preventing the transcript from binding to ribosomes.

Ribozymes, enzymatic RNA molecules, may also be used to catalyze the specific cleavage of RNA. The mechanism of ribozyme action involves sequence-specific hybridization of the ribozyme molecule to complementary target RNA, followed by endonucleolytic cleavage. For

10



example, engineered hammerhead motif ribozyme molecules may specifically and efficiently catalyze endonucleolytic cleavage of sequences encoding PPRG.

Specific ribozyme cleavage sites within any potential RNA target are initially identified by scanning the target molecule for ribozyme cleavage sites, including the following sequences: 5 GUA, GUU, and GUC. Once identified, short RNA sequences of between 15 and 20 ribonucleotides, corresponding to the region of the target gene containing the cleavage site, may be evaluated for secondary structural features which may render the oligonucleotide inoperable. The suitability of candidate targets may also be evaluated by testing accessibility to hybridization with complementary oligonucleotides using ribonuclease protection assays.

Complementary ribonucleic acid molecules and ribozymes of the invention may be prepared by any method known in the art for the synthesis of nucleic acid molecules. These include techniques for chemically synthesizing oligonucleotides such as solid phase phosphoramidite chemical synthesis. Alternatively, RNA molecules may be generated by in vitro and in vivo transcription of DNA sequences encoding PPRG. Such DNA sequences may be 15 incorporated into a wide variety of vectors with suitable RNA polymerase promoters such as T7 or SP6. Alternatively, these cDNA constructs that synthesize complementary RNA, constitutively or inducibly, can be introduced into cell lines, cells, or tissues.

RNA molecules may be modified to increase intracellular stability and half-life. Possible modifications include, but are not limited to, the addition of flanking sequences at the 5' and/or 3' 20 ends of the molecule, or the use of phosphorothioate or 2' O-methyl rather than phosphodiesterase linkages within the backbone of the molecule. This concept is inherent in the production of PNAs and can be extended in all of these molecules by the inclusion of nontraditional bases such as inosine, queosine, and wybutosine, as well as acetyl-, methyl-, thio-, and similarly modified forms of adenine, cytidine, guanine, thymine, and uridine which are not as easily recognized by endogenous endonucleases.

Many methods for introducing vectors into cells or tissues are available and equally suitable for use in vivo, in vitro, and ex vivo. For ex vivo therapy, vectors may be introduced into stem cells taken from the patient and clonally propagated for autologous transplant back into that same patient. Delivery by transfection, by liposome injections, or by polycationic amino polymers 30 may be achieved using methods which are well known in the art. (See, e.g., Goldman, C.K. et al. (1997) Nat. Biotech. 15:462-466.)

Any of the therapeutic methods described above may be applied to any subject in need of such therapy, including, for example, mammals such as dogs, cats, cows, horses, rabbits, monkeys, and most preferably, humans.

An additional embodiment of the invention relates to the administration of a pharmaceutical or sterile composition, in conjunction with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, for any of the therapeutic effects discussed above. Such pharmaceutical compositions may consist of PPRG, antibodies to PPRG, and mimetics, agonists, antagonists, or inhibitors of PPRG. The compositions may be administered alone or in combination with at least one other agent, such as a stabilizing compound, which may be administered in any sterile, biocompatible pharmaceutical carrier including, but not limited to, saline, buffered saline, dextrose, and water. The compositions may be administered to a patient alone, or in combination with other agents, drugs, or hormones.

The pharmaceutical compositions utilized in this invention may be administered by any number of routes including, but not limited to, oral, intravenous, intramuscular, intra-arterial, intramedullary, intrathecal, intraventricular, transdermal, subcutaneous, intraperitoneal, intranasal, enteral, topical, sublingual, or rectal means.

In addition to the active ingredients, these pharmaceutical compositions may contain suitable pharmaceutically-acceptable carriers comprising excipients and auxiliaries which

15 facilitate processing of the active compounds into preparations which can be used pharmaceutically. Further details on techniques for formulation and administration may be found in the latest edition of Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences (Maack Publishing, Easton PA).

Pharmaceutical compositions for oral administration can be formulated using pharmaceutically acceptable carriers well known in the art in dosages suitable for oral administration. Such carriers enable the pharmaceutical compositions to be formulated as tablets, pills, dragees, capsules, liquids, gels, syrups, slurries, suspensions, and the like, for ingestion by the patient.

Pharmaceutical preparations for oral use can be obtained through combining active compounds with solid excipient and processing the resultant mixture of granules (optionally, after grinding) to obtain tablets or dragee cores. Suitable auxiliaries can be added, if desired. Suitable excipients include carbohydrate or protein fillers, such as sugars, including lactose, sucrose, mannitol, and sorbitol; starch from corn, wheat, rice, potato, or other plants; cellulose, such as methyl cellulose, hydroxypropylmethyl-cellulose, or sodium carboxymethylcellulose; gums, including arabic and tragacanth; and proteins, such as gelatin and collagen. If desired, disintegrating or solubilizing agents may be added, such as the cross-linked polyvinyl pyrrolidone, agar, and alginic acid or a salt thereof, such as sodium alginate.

Dragee cores may be used in conjunction with suitable coatings, such as concentrated sugar solutions, which may also contain gum arabic, tale, polyvinylpyrrolidone, carbopol gel, polyethylene glycol, and/or titanium dioxide, lacquer solutions, and suitable organic solvents or



solvent mixtures. Dyestuffs or pigments may be added to the tablets or dragee coatings for product identification or to characterize the quantity of active compound, i.e., dosage.

Pharmaceutical preparations which can be used orally include push-fit capsules made of gelatin, as well as soft, sealed capsules made of gelatin and a coating, such as glycerol or sorbitol. Push-fit capsules can contain active ingredients mixed with fillers or binders, such as lactose or starches, lubricants, such as talc or magnesium stearate, and, optionally, stabilizers. In soft capsules, the active compounds may be dissolved or suspended in suitable liquids, such as fatty oils, liquid, or liquid polyethylene glycol with or without stabilizers.

Pharmaceutical formulations suitable for parenteral administration may be formulated in aqueous solutions, preferably in physiologically compatible buffers such as Hanks' solution, Ringer's solution, or physiologically buffered saline. Aqueous injection suspensions may contain substances which increase the viscosity of the suspension, such as sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, sorbitol, or dextran. Additionally, suspensions of the active compounds may be prepared as appropriate oily injection suspensions. Suitable lipophilic solvents or vehicles include fatty oils, such as sesame oil, or synthetic fatty acid esters, such as ethyl oleate, triglycerides, or liposomes. Non-lipid polycationic amino polymers may also be used for delivery. Optionally, the suspension may also contain suitable stabilizers or agents to increase the solubility of the compounds and allow for the preparation of highly concentrated solutions.

For topical or nasal administration, penetrants appropriate to the particular barrier to be permeated are used in the formulation. Such penetrants are generally known in the art.

The pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention may be manufactured in a manner that is known in the art, e.g., by means of conventional mixing, dissolving, granulating, dragee-making, levigating, emulsifying, encapsulating, entrapping, or lyophilizing processes.

The pharmaceutical composition may be provided as a salt and can be formed with many acids, including but not limited to, hydrochloric, sulfuric, acetic, lactic, tartaric, malic, and succinic acids. Salts tend to be more soluble in aqueous or other protonic solvents than are the corresponding free base forms. In other cases, the preferred preparation may be a lyophilized powder which may contain any or all of the following: 1 mM to 50 mM histidine, 0.1% to 2% sucrose, and 2% to 7% mannitol, at a pH range of 4.5 to 5.5, that is combined with buffer prior to use.

After pharmaceutical compositions have been prepared, they can be placed in an appropriate container and labeled for treatment of an indicated condition. For administration of PPRG, such labeling would include amount, frequency, and method of administration.

Pharmaceutical compositions suitable for use in the invention include compositions



WO 00/09709

wherein the active ingredients are contained in an effective amount to achieve the intended purpose. The determination of an effective dose is well within the capability of those skilled in the art.

For any compound, the therapeutically effective dose can be estimated initially either in cell culture assays, e.g., of neoplastic cells or in animal models such as mice, rats, rabbits, dogs, or pigs. An animal model may also be used to determine the appropriate concentration range and route of administration. Such information can then be used to determine useful doses and routes for administration in humans.

A therapeutically effective dose refers to that amount of active ingredient, for example

PPRG or fragments thereof, antibodies of PPRG, and agonists, antagonists or inhibitors of PPRG, which ameliorates the symptoms or condition. Therapeutic efficacy and toxicity may be determined by standard pharmaceutical procedures in cell cultures or with experimental animals, such as by calculating the ED₅₀ (the dose therapeutically effective in 50% of the population) or LD₅₀ (the dose lethal to 50% of the population) statistics. The dose ratio of toxic to therapeutic effects is the therapeutic index, which can be expressed as the LD₅₀/ED₅₀ ratio. Pharmaceutical compositions which exhibit large therapeutic indices are preferred. The data obtained from cell culture assays and animal studies are used to formulate a range of dosage for human use. The dosage contained in such compositions is preferably within a range of circulating concentrations that includes the ED₅₀ with little or no toxicity. The dosage varies within this range depending upon the dosage form employed, the sensitivity of the patient, and the route of administration.

The exact dosage will be determined by the practitioner, in light of factors related to the subject requiring treatment. Dosage and administration are adjusted to provide sufficient levels of the active moiety or to maintain the desired effect. Factors which may be taken into account include the severity of the disease state, the general health of the subject, the age, weight, and gender of the subject, time and frequency of administration, drug combination(s), reaction sensitivities, and response to therapy. Long-acting pharmaceutical compositions may be administered every 3 to 4 days, every week, or biweekly depending on the half-life and clearance rate of the particular formulation.

Normal dosage amounts may vary from about 0.1 μ g to 100,000 μ g, up to a total dose of about 1 gram, depending upon the route of administration. Guidance as to particular dosages and methods of delivery is provided in the literature and generally available to practitioners in the art. Those skilled in the art will employ different formulations for nucleotides than for proteins or their inhibitors. Similarly, delivery of polynucleotides or polypeptides will be specific to particular cells, conditions, locations, etc.



DIAGNOSTICS

In another embodiment, antibodies which specifically bind PPRG may be used for the diagnosis of disorders characterized by expression of PPRG, or in assays to monitor patients being treated with PPRG or agonists, antagonists, or inhibitors of PPRG. Antibodies useful for diagnostic purposes may be prepared in the same manner as described above for therapeutics. Diagnostic assays for PPRG include methods which utilize the antibody and a label to detect PPRG in human body fluids or in extracts of cells or tissues. The antibodies may be used with or without modification, and may be labeled by covalent or non-covalent attachment of a reporter molecule. A wide variety of reporter molecules, several of which are described above, are known in the art and may be used.

A variety of protocols for measuring PPRG, including ELISAs, RIAs, and FACS, are known in the art and provide a basis for diagnosing altered or abnormal levels of PPRG expression. Normal or standard values for PPRG expression are established by combining body fluids or cell extracts taken from normal mammalian subjects, preferably human, with antibody to 15 PPRG under conditions suitable for complex formation. The amount of standard complex formation may be quantitated by various methods, preferably by photometric means. Quantities of PPRG expressed in subject, control, and disease samples from biopsied tissues are compared with the standard values. Deviation between standard and subject values establishes the parameters for diagnosing disease.

In another embodiment of the invention, the polynucleotides encoding PPRG may be used for diagnostic purposes. The polynucleotides which may be used include oligonucleotide sequences, complementary RNA and DNA molecules, and PNAs. The polynucleotides may be used to detect and quantitate gene expression in biopsied tissues in which expression of PPRG may be correlated with disease. The diagnostic assay may be used to determine absence, 25 presence, and excess expression of PPRG, and to monitor regulation of PPRG levels during therapeutic intervention.

In one aspect, hybridization with PCR probes which are capable of detecting polynucleotide sequences, including genomic sequences, encoding PPRG or closely related molecules may be used to identify nucleic acid sequences which encode PPRG. The specificity of 30 the probe, whether it is made from a highly specific region, e.g., the 5' regulatory region, or from a less specific region, e.g., a conserved motif, and the stringency of the hybridization or amplification (maximal, high, intermediate, or low), will determine whether the probe identifies only naturally occurring sequences encoding PPRG, allelic variants, or related sequences.

Probes may also be used for the detection of related sequences, and should preferably

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have at least 50% sequence identity to any of the PPRG encoding sequences. The hybridization probes of the subject invention may be DNA or RNA and may be derived from the sequence of SEQ ID NO:21-40 or from genomic sequences including promoters, enhancers, and introns of the PPRG gene.

Means for producing specific hybridization probes for DNAs encoding PPRG include the cloning of polynucleotide sequences encoding PPRG or PPRG derivatives into vectors for the production of mRNA probes. Such vectors are known in the art, are commercially available, and may be used to synthesize RNA probes in vitro by means of the addition of the appropriate RNA polymerases and the appropriate labeled nucleotides. Hybridization probes may be labeled by a variety of reporter groups, for example, by radionuclides such as ³²P or ³⁵S, or by enzymatic labels, such as alkaline phosphatase coupled to the probe via avidin/biotin coupling systems, and the like.

Polynucleotide sequences encoding PPRG may be used for the diagnosis of disorders associated with expression of PPRG. Examples of such disorders include, but are not limited to, a cell proliferative disorder such as actinic keratosis, arteriosclerosis, atherosclerosis, bursitis, 15 cirrhosis, hepatitis, mixed connective tissue disease (MCTD), myelofibrosis, paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria, polycythemia vera, psoriasis, primary thrombocythemia, and cancers including adenocarcinoma, leukemia, lymphoma, melanoma, myeloma, sarcoma, teratocarcinoma, and, in particular, cancers of the adrenal gland, bladder, bone, bone marrow, brain, breast, cervix, gall bladder, ganglia, gastrointestinal tract, heart, kidney, liver, lung, muscle, ovary, pancreas, parathyroid, penis, prostate, salivary glands, skin, spleen, testis, thymus, thyroid, and uterus; and an immune disorder such as acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), Addison's disease, adult respiratory distress syndrome, allergies, ankylosing spondylitis, amyloidosis, anemia, asthma, atherosclerosis, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, autoimmune thyroiditis, autoimmune polyenodocrinopathy-candidiasis-ectodermal dystrophy (APECED), bronchitis, cholecystitis, contact dermatitis, Crohn's disease, atopic dermatitis, dermatomyositis, diabetes mellitus, emphysema, episodic lymphopenia with lymphocytotoxins, erythroblastosis fetalis, erythema nodosum, atrophic gastritis, glomerulonephritis, Goodpasture's syndrome, gout, Graves' disease, Hashimoto's thyroiditis, hypereosinophilia, irritable bowel syndrome, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis, myocardial or pericardial inflammation, osteoarthritis, osteoporosis, pancreatitis, polymyositis, psoriasis, Reiter's syndrome, rheumatoid arthritis, scleroderma, Sjögren's syndrome, systemic anaphylaxis, systemic lupus erythematosus, systemic sclerosis, thrombocytopenic purpura, ulcerative colitis, uveitis, Werner syndrome, complications of cancer, hemodialysis, and extracorporeal circulation, viral, bacterial, fungal, parasitic, protozoal, and helminthic infections, and trauma. The polynucleotide sequences encoding PPRG may be used in



Southern or northern analysis, dot blot, or other membrane-based technologies; in PCR technologies; in dipstick, pin, and multiformat ELISA-like assays; and in microarrays utilizing fluids or tissues from patients to detect altered PPRG expression. Such qualitative or quantitative methods are well known in the art.

In a particular aspect, the nucleotide sequences encoding PPRG may be useful in assays that detect the presence of associated disorders, particularly those mentioned above. The nucleotide sequences encoding PPRG may be labeled by standard methods and added to a fluid or tissue sample from a patient under conditions suitable for the formation of hybridization complexes. After a suitable incubation period, the sample is washed and the signal is quantitated and compared with a standard value. If the amount of signal in the patient sample is significantly altered in comparison to a control sample then the presence of altered levels of nucleotide sequences encoding PPRG in the sample indicates the presence of the associated disorder. Such assays may also be used to evaluate the efficacy of a particular therapeutic treatment regimen in animal studies, in clinical trials, or to monitor the treatment of an individual patient.

In order to provide a basis for the diagnosis of a disorder associated with expression of PPRG, a normal or standard profile for expression is established. This may be accomplished by combining body fluids or cell extracts taken from normal subjects, either animal or human, with a sequence, or a fragment thereof, encoding PPRG, under conditions suitable for hybridization or amplification. Standard hybridization may be quantified by comparing the values obtained from normal subjects with values from an experiment in which a known amount of a substantially purified polynucleotide is used. Standard values obtained in this manner may be compared with values obtained from samples from patients who are symptomatic for a disorder. Deviation from standard values is used to establish the presence of a disorder.

Once the presence of a disorder is established and a treatment protocol is initiated, hybridization assays may be repeated on a regular basis to determine if the level of expression in the patient begins to approximate that which is observed in the normal subject. The results obtained from successive assays may be used to show the efficacy of treatment over a period ranging from several days to months.

With respect to cancer, the presence of an abnormal amount of transcript (either under- or overexpressed) in biopsied tissue from an individual may indicate a predisposition for the development of the disease, or may provide a means for detecting the disease prior to the appearance of actual clinical symptoms. A more definitive diagnosis of this type may allow health professionals to employ preventative measures or aggressive treatment earlier thereby preventing the development or further progression of the cancer.



Additional diagnostic uses for oligonucleotides designed from the sequences encoding PPRG may involve the use of PCR. These oligomers may be chemically synthesized, generated enzymatically, or produced in vitro. Oligomers will preferably contain a fragment of a polynucleotide encoding PPRG, or a fragment of a polynucleotide complementary to the polynucleotide encoding PPRG, and will be employed under optimized conditions for identification of a specific gene or condition. Oligomers may also be employed under less stringent conditions for detection or quantitation of closely related DNA or RNA sequences.

Methods which may also be used to quantify the expression of PPRG include radiolabeling or biotinylating nucleotides, coamplification of a control nucleic acid, and interpolating results from standard curves. (See, e.g., Melby, P.C. et al. (1993) J. Immunol. Methods 159:235-244; Duplaa, C. et al. (1993) Anal. Biochem. 212:229-236.) The speed of quantitation of multiple samples may be accelerated by running the assay in an ELISA format where the oligomer of interest is presented in various dilutions and a spectrophotometric or colorimetric response gives rapid quantitation.

In further embodiments, oligonucleotides or longer fragments derived from any of the polynucleotide sequences described herein may be used as targets in a microarray. The microarray can be used to monitor the expression level of large numbers of genes simultaneously and to identify genetic variants, mutations, and polymorphisms. This information may be used to determine gene function, to understand the genetic basis of a disorder, to diagnose a disorder, and to develop and monitor the activities of therapeutic agents.

Microarrays may be prepared, used, and analyzed using methods known in the art. (See, e.g., Brennan, T.M. et al. (1995) U.S. Patent No. 5,474,796; Schena, M. et al. (1996) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 93:10614-10619; Baldeschweiler et al. (1995) PCT application WO95/251116; Shalon, D. et al. (1995) PCT application WO95/35505; Heller, R.A. et al. (1997) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 94:2150-2155; and Heller, M.J. et al. (1997) U.S. Patent No. 5,605,662.)

In another embodiment of the invention, nucleic acid sequences encoding PPRG may be used to generate hybridization probes useful in mapping the naturally occurring genomic sequence. The sequences may be mapped to a particular chromosome, to a specific region of a chromosome, or to artificial chromosome constructions, e.g., human artificial chromosomes (HACs), yeast artificial chromosomes (YACs), bacterial artificial chromosomes (BACs), bacterial P1 constructions, or single chromosome cDNA libraries. (See, e.g., Harrington, J.J. et al. (1997) Nat. Genet. 15:345-355; Price, C.M. (1993) Blood Rev. 7:127-134; and Trask, B.J. (1991) Trends Genet. 7:149-154.)

Fluorescent in situ hybridization (FISH) may be correlated with other physical

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chromosome mapping techniques and genetic map data. (See, e.g., Heinz-Ulrich, et al. (1995) in Meyers, supra, pp. 965-968.) Examples of genetic map data can be found in various scientific journals or at the Online Mendelian Inheritance in Man (OMIM) site. Correlation between the location of the gene encoding PPRG on a physical chromosomal map and a specific disorder, or a predisposition to a specific disorder, may help define the region of DNA associated with that disorder. The nucleotide sequences of the invention may be used to detect differences in gene sequences among normal, carrier, and affected individuals.

In situ hybridization of chromosomal preparations and physical mapping techniques, such as linkage analysis using established chromosomal markers, may be used for extending genetic maps. Often the placement of a gene on the chromosome of another mammalian species, such as mouse, may reveal associated markers even if the number or arm of a particular human chromosome is not known. New sequences can be assigned to chromosomal arms by physical mapping. This provides valuable information to investigators searching for disease genes using positional cloning or other gene discovery techniques. Once the disease or syndrome has been crudely localized by genetic linkage to a particular genomic region, e.g., ataxia-telangiectasia to 11q22-23, any sequences mapping to that area may represent associated or regulatory genes for further investigation. (See, e.g., Gatti, R.A. et al. (1988) Nature 336:577-580.) The nucleotide sequence of the subject invention may also be used to detect differences in the chromosomal location due to translocation, inversion, etc., among normal, carrier, or affected individuals.

In another embodiment of the invention, PPRG, its catalytic or immunogenic fragments, or oligopeptides thereof can be used for screening libraries of compounds in any of a variety of drug screening techniques. The fragment employed in such screening may be free in solution, affixed to a solid support, borne on a cell surface, or located intracellularly. The formation of binding complexes between PPRG and the agent being tested may be measured.

Another technique for drug screening provides for high throughput screening of compounds having suitable binding affinity to the protein of interest. (See, e.g., Geysen, et al. (1984) PCT application WO84/03564.) In this method, large numbers of different small test compounds are synthesized on a solid substrate. The test compounds are reacted with PPRG, or fragments thereof, and washed. Bound PPRG is then detected by methods well known in the art. Purified PPRG can also be coated directly onto plates for use in the aforementioned drug screening techniques. Alternatively, non-neutralizing antibodies can be used to capture the peptide and immobilize it on a solid support.

In another embodiment, one may use competitive drug screening assays in which neutralizing antibodies capable of binding PPRG specifically compete with a test compound for

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binding PPRG. In this manner, antibodies can be used to detect the presence of any peptide which shares one or more antigenic determinants with PPRG.

In additional embodiments, the nucleotide sequences which encode PPRG may be used in any molecular biology techniques that have yet to be developed, provided the new techniques rely on properties of nucleotide sequences that are currently known, including, but not limited to, such properties as the triplet genetic code and specific base pair interactions.

Without further elaboration, it is believed that one skilled in the art can, using the preceding description, utilize the present invention to its fullest extent. The following preferred 10 specific embodiments are, therefore, to be construed as merely illustrative, and not limitative of the remainder of the disclosure in any way whatsoever.

The disclosures of all patents, applications, and publications mentioned above and below, in particular U.S. Ser. No. 60/096,114 and U.S. Ser. No. 60/119,768, are hereby expressly incorporated by reference.

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EXAMPLES

Construction of cDNA Libraries I.

RNA was purchased from Clontech or isolated from tissues described in Table 4. Some 20 tissues were homogenized and lysed in guanidinium isothiocyanate, while others were homogenized and lysed in phenol or in a suitable mixture of denaturants, such as TRIZOL (Life Technologies), a monophasic solution of phenol and guanidine isothiocyanate. The resulting lysates were centrifuged over CsCl cushions or extracted with chloroform. RNA was precipitated from the lysates with either isopropanol or sodium acetate and ethanol, or by other routine methods.

Phenol extraction and precipitation of RNA were repeated as necessary to increase RNA purity. In some cases, RNA was treated with DNase. For most libraries, poly(A+) RNA was isolated using oligo d(T)-coupled paramagnetic particles (Promega), OLIGOTEX latex particles (QIAGEN, Chatsworth CA), or an OLIGOTEX mRNA purification kit (QIAGEN). Alternatively, 30 RNA was isolated directly from tissue lysates using other RNA isolation kits, e.g., the POLY(A)PURE mRNA purification kit (Ambion, Austin TX).

In some cases, Stratagene was provided with RNA and constructed the corresponding cDNA libraries. Otherwise, cDNA was synthesized and cDNA libraries were constructed with the UNIZAP vector system (Stratagene) or SUPERSCRIPT plasmid system (Life Technologies),

using the recommended procedures or similar methods known in the art. (See, e.g., Ausubel, 1997, supra, units 5.1-6.6.) Reverse transcription was initiated using oligo d(T) or random primers. Synthetic oligonucleotide adapters were ligated to double stranded cDNA, and the cDNA was digested with the appropriate restriction enzyme or enzymes. For most libraries, the cDNA was size-selected (300-1000 bp) using SEPHACRYL S1000, SEPHAROSE CL2B, or SEPHAROSE CL4B column chromatography (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech) or preparative agarose gel electrophoresis. cDNAs were ligated into compatible restriction enzyme sites of the polylinker of a suitable plasmid, e.g., PBLUESCRIPT plasmid (Stratagene), pSPORT1 plasmid (Life Technologies), or pINCY (Incyte Pharmaceuticals, Palo Alto CA). Recombinant plasmids were transformed into competent E. coli cells including XL1-Blue, XL1-BlueMRF, or SOLR from Stratagene or DH5α, DH10B, or ElectroMAX DH10B from Life Technologies.

II. Isolation of cDNA Clones

Plasmids were recovered from host cells by in vivo excision, using the UNIZAP vector system (Stratagene) or cell lysis. Plasmids were purified using at least one of the following: a

15 Magic or WIZARD Minipreps DNA purification system (Promega); an AGTC Miniprep purification kit (Edge Biosystems, Gaithersburg MD); and QIAWELL 8 Plasmid, QIAWELL 8

Plus Plasmid, QIAWELL 8 Ultra Plasmid purification systems or the R.E.A.L. PREP 96 plasmid purification kit from QIAGEN. Following precipitation, plasmids were resuspended in 0.1 ml of distilled water and stored, with or without lyophilization, at 4°C.

Alternatively, plasmid DNA was amplified from host cell lysates using direct link PCR in a high-throughput format (Rao, V.B. (1994) Anal. Biochem. 216:1-14). Host cell lysis and thermal cycling steps were carried out in a single reaction mixture. Samples were processed and stored in 384-well plates, and the concentration of amplified plasmid DNA was quantified fluorometrically using PICOGREEN dye (Molecular Probes, Eugene OR) and a Fluoroskan II fluorescence scanner (Labsystems Oy, Helsinki, Finland).

III. Sequencing and Analysis

cDNA sequencing reactions were processed using standard methods or high-throughput instrumentation such as the ABI CATALYST 800 (Perkin-Elmer) thermal cycler or the PTC-200 thermal cycler (MJ Research) in conjunction with the HYDRA microdispenser (Robbins Scientific) or the MICROLAB 2200 (Hamilton) liquid transfer system. cDNA sequencing reactions were prepared using reagents provided by Amersham Pharmacia Biotech or supplied in ABI sequencing kits such as the ABI PRISM BIGDYE Terminator cycle sequencing ready reaction kit (Perkin-Elmer). Electrophoretic separation of cDNA sequencing reactions and detection of labeled polynucleotides were carried out using the MEGABACE 1000 DNA





sequencing system (Molecular Dynamics); the ABI PRISM 373 or 377 sequencing systems (Perkin-Elmer) in conjunction with standard ABI protocols and base calling software; or other sequence analysis systems known in the art. Reading frames within the cDNA sequences were identified using standard methods (reviewed in Ausubel, 1997, supra, unit 7.7). Some of the cDNA sequences were selected for extension using the techniques disclosed in Example V.

The polynucleotide sequences derived from cDNA sequencing were assembled and analyzed using a combination of software programs which utilize algorithms well known to those skilled in the art. Table 5 summarizes the tools, programs, and algorithms used and provides applicable descriptions, references, and threshold parameters. The first column of Table 5 shows the tools, programs, and algorithms used, the second column provides brief descriptions thereof, the third column presents appropriate references, all of which are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety, and the fourth column presents, where applicable, the scores, probability values, and other parameters used to evaluate the strength of a match between two sequences (the higher the score, the greater the homology between two sequences). Sequences were analyzed using MACDNASIS PRO software (Hitachi Software Engineering, South San Francisco CA) and LASERGENE software (DNASTAR).

The polynucleotide sequences were validated by removing vector, linker, and polyA sequences and by masking ambiguous bases, using algorithms and programs based on BLAST, dynamic programing, and dinucleotide nearest neighbor analysis. The sequences were then queried against a selection of public databases such as the GenBank primate, rodent, mammalian, vertebrate, and eukaryote databases, and BLOCKS to acquire annotation using programs based on BLAST, FASTA, and BLIMPS. The sequences were assembled into full length polynucleotide sequences using programs based on Phred, Phrap, and Consed, and were screened for open reading frames using programs based on GeneMark, BLAST, and FASTA. The full length polynucleotide sequences were translated to derive the corresponding full length amino acid sequences, and these full length sequences were subsequently analyzed by querying against databases such as the GenBank databases (described above), SwissProt, BLOCKS, PRINTS, Prosite, and Hidden Markov Model (HMM)-based protein family databases such as PFAM. HMM is a probabilistic approach which analyzes consensus primary structures of gene families.

30 (See, e.g., Eddy, S.R. (1996) Curr. Opin. Struct. Biol. 6:361-365.)

The programs described above for the assembly and analysis of full length polynucleotide and amino acid sequences were also used to identify polynucleotide sequence fragments from SEQ ID NO:21-40. Fragments from about 20 to about 4000 nucleotides which are useful in hybridization and amplification technologies were described in The Invention section above.

WO 00/09709 PCT/US99/17818

IV. Northern Analysis

Northern analysis is a laboratory technique used to detect the presence of a transcript of a gene and involves the hybridization of a labeled nucleotide sequence to a membrane on which RNAs from a particular cell type or tissue have been bound. (See, e.g., Sambrook, supra, ch. 7; Ausubel, 1995, supra, ch. 4 and 16.)

Analogous computer techniques applying BLAST were used to search for identical or related molecules in nucleotide databases such as GenBank or LIFESEQ (Incyte Pharmaceuticals). This analysis is much faster than multiple membrane-based hybridizations. In addition, the sensitivity of the computer search can be modified to determine whether any particular match is categorized as exact or similar. The basis of the search is the product score, which is defined as:

% sequence identity x % maximum BLAST score

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The product score takes into account both the degree of similarity between two sequences and the length of the sequence match. For example, with a product score of 40, the match will be exact

15 within a 1% to 2% error, and, with a product score of 70, the match will be exact. Similar molecules are usually identified by selecting those which show product scores between 15 and 40, although lower scores may identify related molecules.

The results of northern analyses are reported as a percentage distribution of libraries in which the transcript encoding PPRG occurred. Analysis involved the categorization of cDNA libraries by organ/tissue and disease. The organ/tissue categories included cardiovascular, dermatologic, developmental, endocrine, gastrointestinal, hematopoietic/immune, musculoskeletal, nervous, reproductive, and urologic. The disease/condition categories included cancer, inflammation/trauma, cell proliferation, neurological, and pooled. For each category, the number of libraries expressing the sequence of interest was counted and divided by the total number of libraries across all categories. Percentage values of tissue-specific and disease- or condition-specific expression are reported in Table 3.

V. Extension of PPRG Encoding Polynucleotides

The full length nucleic acid sequences of SEQ ID NO:21-27 were produced by extension of an appropriate fragment of the full length molecule using oligonucleotide primers designed from this fragment. For each nucleic acid sequence, one primer was synthesized to initiate extension of an antisense polynucleotide, and the other was synthesized to initiate extension of a sense polynucleotide. Primers were used to facilitate the extension of the known sequence "outward" generating amplicons containing new unknown nucleotide sequence for the region of



interest. The initial primers were designed from the cDNA using OLIGO 4.06 (National Biosciences), or another appropriate program, to be about 22 to 30 nucleotides in length, to have a GC content of about 50% or more, and to anneal to the target sequence at temperatures of about 68°C to about 72°C. Any stretch of nucleotides which would result in hairpin structures and primer-primer dimerizations was avoided.

Selected human cDNA libraries (Life Technologies) were used to extend the sequence. If more than one extension is necessary or desired, additional sets of primers are designed to further extend the known region.

High fidelity amplification was obtained by following the instructions for the XL-PCR kit

(Perkin-Elmer) and thoroughly mixing the enzyme and reaction mix. PCR was performed using
the PTC200 thermal cycler (M.J. Research) beginning with 40 pmol of each primer and the
recommended concentrations of all other components of the kit, with the following parameters:

	Step 1	94°C for 1 min (initial denaturation)
	Step 2	65°C for 1 min
15	Step 3	68°C for 6 min
	Step 4	94°C for 15 sec
	Step 5	65°C for 1 min
	Step 6	68°C for 7 min
	Step 7	Repeat steps 4-6 for an additional 15 cycles
20	Step 8	94°C for 15 sec
	Step 9	65°C for 1 min
	Step 10	68°C for 7:15 min
	Step 11	Repeat steps 8-10 for an additional 12 cycles
	Step 12	72°C for 8 min
25	Step 13	4°C (and holding)

A 5 μ l to 10 μ l aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by electrophoresis on a low concentration (about 0.6% to 0.8%) agarose mini-gel to determine which reactions were successful in extending the sequence. Bands thought to contain the largest products were excised from the gel, purified using the QIAQUICK kit (QIAGEN), and trimmed of overhangs using Klenow enzyme to facilitate religation and cloning.

After ethanol precipitation, the products were redissolved in 13 μl of ligation buffer, 1μl T4-DNA ligase (15 units) and 1μl T4 polynucleotide kinase were added, and the mixture was incubated at room temperature for 2 to 3 hours, or overnight at 16°C. Competent E. coli cells (in 40 μl of appropriate media) were transformed with 3 μl of ligation mixture and cultured in 80 μl of SOC medium. (See, e.g., Sambrook, supra, Appendix A, p. 2.) After incubation for one hour at 37°C, the E. coli mixture was plated on Luria Bertani (LB) agar (See, e.g., Sambrook, supra, Appendix A, p. 1) containing carbenicillin (2x carb). The following day, several colonies were randomly picked from each plate and cultured in 150 μl of liquid LB/2x carb medium placed in an

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individual well of an appropriate commercially-available sterile 96-well microtiter plate. The following day, $5 \mu l$ of each overnight culture was transferred into a non-sterile 96-well plate and, after dilution 1:10 with water, $5 \mu l$ from each sample was transferred into a PCR array.

For PCR amplification, 18 μ l of concentrated PCR reaction mix (3.3x) containing 4 units of rTth DNA polymerase, a vector primer, and one or both of the gene-specific primers used for the extension reaction were added to each well. Amplification was performed using the following conditions:

	Step 1	94°C for 60 sec
	Step 2	94°C for 20 sec
10	Step 3	55°C for 30 sec
	Step 4	72°C for 90 sec
	Step 5	Repeat steps 2-4 for an additional 29 cycles
	Step 6	72°C for 180 sec
	Step 7	4°C (and holding)

Aliquots of the PCR reactions were run on agarose gels together with molecular weight markers. The sizes of the PCR products were compared to the original partial cDNAs, and appropriate clones were selected, ligated into plasmid, and sequenced.

In like manner, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:21-27 are used to obtain 5' regulatory sequences using the procedure above, oligonucleotides designed for 5' extension, and an appropriate genomic library.

The full length nucleic acid sequences of SEQ ID NO:28-40 were produced by extension of an appropriate fragment of the full length molecule using oligonucleotide primers designed from this fragment. One primer was synthesized to initiate 5' extension of the known fragment, and the other primer to initiate 3' extension of the known fragment. The initial primers were designed using OLIGO 4.06 software (National Biosciences), or another appropriate program, to be about 22 to 30 nucleotides in length, to have a GC content of about 50% or more, and to anneal to the target sequence at temperatures of about 68°C to about 72°C. Any stretch of nucleotides which would result in hairpin structures and primer-primer dimerizations was avoided.

Selected human cDNA libraries were used to extend the sequence. If more than one extension was necessary or desired, additional or nested sets of primers were designed.

High fidelity amplification was obtained by PCR using methods well known in the art.

PCR was performed in 96-well plates using the PTC-200 thermal cycler (MJ Research, Inc.). The reaction mix contained DNA template, 200 nmol of each primer, reaction buffer containing Mg²⁺,

(NH₄)₂SO₄, and β-mercaptoethanol, Taq DNA polymerase (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech),

ELONGASE enzyme (Life Technologies), and Pfu DNA polymerase (Stratagene), with the following parameters for primer pair PCI A and PCI B: Step 1: 94°C, 3 min; Step 2: 94°C, 15 sec;

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Step 3: 60°C, 1 min; Step 4: 68°C, 2 min; Step 5: Steps 2, 3, and 4 repeated 20 times; Step 6: 68°C, 5 min; Step 7: storage at 4°C. In the alternative, the parameters for primer pair T7 and SK+ were as follows: Step 1: 94°C, 3 min; Step 2: 94°C, 15 sec; Step 3: 57°C, 1 min; Step 4: 68°C, 2 min; Step 5: Steps 2, 3, and 4 repeated 20 times; Step 6: 68°C, 5 min; Step 7: storage at 4°C.

The concentration of DNA in each well was determined by dispensing 100 µl PICOGREEN quantitation reagent (0.25% (v/v) PICOGREEN; Molecular Probes, Eugene OR) dissolved in 1X TE and 0.5 µl of undiluted PCR product into each well of an opaque fluorimeter plate (Corning Costar, Acton MA), allowing the DNA to bind to the reagent. The plate was scanned in a Fluoroskan II (Labsystems Oy, Helsinki, Finland) to measure the fluorescence of the sample and to quantify the concentration of DNA. A 5 μ l to 10 μ l aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by electrophoresis on a 1 % agarose mini-gel to determine which reactions were successful in extending the sequence.

The extended nucleotides were desalted and concentrated, transferred to 384-well plates, digested with CviJI cholera virus endonuclease (Molecular Biology Research, Madison WI), and 15 sonicated or sheared prior to religation into pUC 18 vector (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech). For shotgun sequencing, the digested nucleotides were separated on low concentration (0.6 to 0.8%) agarose gels, fragments were excised, and agar digested with Agar ACE (Promega). Extended clones were religated using T4 ligase (New England Biolabs, Beverly MA) into pUC 18 vector (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech), treated with Pfu DNA polymerase (Stratagene) to fill-in 20 restriction site overhangs, and transfected into competent E. coli cells. Transformed cells were selected on antibiotic-containing media, individual colonies were picked and cultured overnight at 37°C in 384-well plates in LB/2x carb liquid media.

The cells were lysed, and DNA was amplified by PCR using Taq DNA polymerase (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech) and Pfu DNA polymerase (Stratagene) with the following 25 parameters: Step 1: 94°C, 3 min; Step 2: 94°C, 15 sec; Step 3: 60°C, 1 min; Step 4: 72°C, 2 min; Step 5: steps 2, 3, and 4 repeated 29 times; Step 6: 72°C, 5 min; Step 7: storage at 4°C. DNA was quantified by PICOGREEN reagent (Molecular Probes) as described above. Samples with low DNA recoveries were reamplified using the same conditions as described above. Samples were diluted with 20% dimethysulphoxide (1:2, v/v), and sequenced using DYENAMIC energy transfer 30 sequencing primers and the DYENAMIC DIRECT kit (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech) or the ABI PRISM BIGDYE Terminator cycle sequencing ready reaction kit (Perkin-Elmer).

In like manner, the nucleotide sequences of SEO ID NO:28-40 are used to obtain 5' regulatory sequences using the procedure above, oligonucleotides designed for such extension, and an appropriate genomic library.



VI. Labeling and Use of Individual Hybridization Probes

Hybridization probes derived from SEQ ID NO:21-40 are employed to screen cDNAs, genomic DNAs, or mRNAs. Although the labeling of oligonucleotides, consisting of about 20 base pairs, is specifically described, essentially the same procedure is used with larger nucleotide fragments. Oligonucleotides are designed using state-of-the-art software such as OLIGO 4.06 software (National Biosciences) and labeled by combining 50 pmol of each oligomer, 250 μCi of [γ-³²P] adenosine triphosphate (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech), and T4 polynucleotide kinase (DuPont NEN, Boston MA). The labeled oligonucleotides are substantially purified using a SEPHADEX G-25 superfine size exclusion dextran bead column (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech).
10 An aliquot containing 10⁷ counts per minute of the labeled probe is used in a typical membrane-based hybridization analysis of human genomic DNA digested with one of the following endonucleases: Ase I, Bgl II, Eco RI, Pst I, Xba1, or Pvu II (DuPont NEN).

The DNA from each digest is fractionated on a 0.7% agarose gel and transferred to nylon membranes (Nytran Plus, Schleicher & Schuell, Durham NH). Hybridization is carried out for 16 hours at 40°C. To remove nonspecific signals, blots are sequentially washed at room temperature under increasingly stringent conditions up to 0.1 x saline sodium citrate and 0.5% sodium dodecyl sulfate. Hybridization patterns are visualized using autoradiography and compared.

VII. Microarrays

A chemical coupling procedure and an ink jet device can be used to synthesize array

20 elements on the surface of a substrate. (See, e.g., Baldeschweiler, supra.) An array analogous to a
dot or slot blot may also be used to arrange and link elements to the surface of a substrate using
thermal, UV, chemical, or mechanical bonding procedures. A typical array may be produced by
hand or using available methods and machines and contain any appropriate number of elements.

After hybridization, nonhybridized probes are removed and a scanner used to determine the levels

25 and patterns of fluorescence. The degree of complementarity and the relative abundance of each
probe which hybridizes to an element on the microarray may be assessed through analysis of the
scanned images.

Full-length cDNAs, Expressed Sequence Tags (ESTs), or fragments thereof may comprise the elements of the microarray. Fragments suitable for hybridization can be selected using software well known in the art such as LASERGENE software (DNASTAR). Full-length cDNAs, ESTs, or fragments thereof corresponding to one of the nucleotide sequences of the present invention, or selected at random from a cDNA library relevant to the present invention, are arranged on an appropriate substrate, e.g., a glass slide. The cDNA is fixed to the slide using, e.g., UV cross-linking followed by thermal and chemical treatments and subsequent drying. (See, e.g.,





Schena, M. et al. (1995) Science 270:467-470; Shalon, D. et al. (1996) Genome Res. 6:639-645.) Fluorescent probes are prepared and used for hybridization to the elements on the substrate. The substrate is analyzed by procedures described above.

VIII. Complementary Polynucleotides

Sequences complementary to the PPRG-encoding sequences, or any parts thereof, are used to detect, decrease, or inhibit expression of naturally occurring PPRG. Although use of oligonucleotides comprising from about 15 to 30 base pairs is described, essentially the same procedure is used with smaller or with larger sequence fragments. Appropriate oligonucleotides are designed using OLIGO 4.06 software (National Biosciences) and the coding sequence of PPRG. To inhibit transcription, a complementary oligonucleotide is designed from the most unique 5' sequence and used to prevent promoter binding to the coding sequence. To inhibit translation, a complementary oligonucleotide is designed to prevent ribosomal binding to the PPRG-encoding transcript.

IX. Expression of PPRG

Expression and purification of PPRG is achieved using bacterial or virus-based 15 expression systems. For expression of PPRG in bacteria, cDNA is subcloned into an appropriate vector containing an antibiotic resistance gene and an inducible promoter that directs high levels of cDNA transcription. Examples of such promoters include, but are not limited to, the trp-lac (tac) hybrid promoter and the T5 or T7 bacteriophage promoter in conjunction with the lac operator regulatory element. Recombinant vectors are transformed into suitable bacterial hosts, e.g., BL21(DE3). Antibiotic resistant bacteria express PPRG upon induction with isopropyl beta-D-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG). Expression of PPRG in eukaryotic cells is achieved by infecting insect or mammalian cell lines with recombinant Autographica californica nuclear polyhedrosis virus (AcMNPV), commonly known as baculovirus. The nonessential polyhedrin gene of baculovirus is replaced with cDNA encoding PPRG by either homologous recombination or bacterial-mediated transposition involving transfer plasmid intermediates. Viral infectivity is maintained and the strong polyhedrin promoter drives high levels of cDNA transcription. Recombinant baculovirus is used to infect Spodoptera frugiperda (Sf9) insect cells in most cases, or human hepatocytes, in some cases. Infection of the latter requires additional genetic modifications to baculovirus. (See Engelhard, E.K. et al. (1994) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 91:3224-3227; Sandig, V. et al. (1996) Hum. Gene Ther. 7:1937-1945.)

In most expression systems, PPRG is synthesized as a fusion protein with, e.g., glutathione S-transferase (GST) or a peptide epitope tag, such as FLAG or 6-His, permitting rapid, single-step, affinity-based purification of recombinant fusion protein from crude cell lysates.







GST, a 26-kilodalton enzyme from <u>Schistosoma japonicum</u>, enables the purification of fusion proteins on immobilized glutathione under conditions that maintain protein activity and antigenicity (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech). Following purification, the GST moiety can be proteolytically cleaved from PPRG at specifically engineered sites. FLAG, an 8-amino acid peptide, enables immunoaffinity purification using commercially available monoclonal and polyclonal anti-FLAG antibodies (Eastman Kodak). 6-His, a stretch of six consecutive histidine residues, enables purification on metal-chelate resins (QIAGEN). Methods for protein expression and purification are discussed in Ausubel (1995, <u>supra</u>, ch 10 and 16). Purified PPRG obtained by these methods can be used directly in the following activity assay.

10 X. Demonstration of PPRG Activity

Protease activity of PPRG is measured by the hydrolysis of appropriate synthetic peptide substrates conjugated with various chromogenic molecules in which the degree of hydrolysis is quantified by spectrophotometric (or fluorometric) absorption of the released chromophore. (Beynon, R.J. and J.S. Bond (1994) Proteolytic Enzymes: A Practical Approach, Oxford

15 University Press, New York NY, pp.25-55.) Peptide substrates are designed according to the category of protease activity as endopeptidase (serine, cysteine, aspartic proteases), animopeptidase (leucine aminopeptidase), or carboxypeptidase (Carboxypeptidase A and B, procollagen C-proteinase). Chromogens commonly used are 2-naphthylamine, 4-nitroaniline, and furylacrylic acid. Assays are performed atambient temperature and contain an aliquot of the enzyme and the appropriate substrate in a suitable buffer. Reactions are carried out in an optical cuvette and followed by measurement of the increase/decrease in absorbance of the chromogen released during hydrolysis of the peptide substrate. The change in absorbance is proportional to the enzyme activity in the assay.

Regulation of protease activity (agonism or antagonism) by PPRG is measured using an appropriate protease assay as described above in the presence or absence of PPRG as an agonist or inhibitor of this activity. Protease activity is measured in the absence of PPRG (control activity) and in the presence of varying amounts of PPRG. The change in protease activity compared to the control is proportional to the amount of PPRG in the assay and is a measure of the protease regulatory activity of PPRG.

For example, for inhibitory activity of PPRG-2, the assay is carried out as described above for PPRG using a calcium activated protease, such as calpain, assayed in the absence and in the presence of various concentrations of PPRG-2. Inhibition of calpain protease activity is proportional to the activity of PPRG-2 in the assay. Similarly, for inhibitory activity of PPRG-4 and PPRG-9, assays are carried out as described above for PPRG using pancreatic trypsin assayed





in the absence and in the presence of various concentrations of PPRG-4 or PPRG-9. Inhibition of pancreatic trypsin protease activity is proportional to the activity of PPRG-4 or PPRG-9 in the assay.

XI. Functional Assays

5. PPRG function is assessed by expressing the sequences encoding PPRG at physiologically elevated levels in mammalian cell culture systems. cDNA is subcloned into a mammalian expression vector containing a strong promoter that drives high levels of cDNA expression. Vectors of choice include pCMV SPORT (Life Technologies) and pCR3.1 (Invitrogen, Carlsbad CA), both of which contain the cytomegalovirus promoter. 5-10 μ g of 10. recombinant vector are transiently transfected into a human cell line, preferably of endothelial or hematopoietic origin, using either liposome formulations or electroporation. 1-2 μ g of an additional plasmid containing sequences encoding a marker protein are co-transfected. Expression of a marker protein provides a means to distinguish transfected cells from nontransfected cells and is a reliable predictor of cDNA expression from the recombinant vector. Marker proteins of choice include, e.g., Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP; Clontech), CD64, or a CD64-GFP fusion protein. Flow cytometry (FCM), an automated, laser optics-based technique, is used to identify transfected cells expressing GFP or CD64-GFP and to evaluate the apoptotic state of the cells and other cellular properties. FCM detects and quantifies the uptake of fluorescent molecules that diagnose events preceding or coincident with cell death. These events include changes in nuclear 20 DNA content as measured by staining of DNA with propidium iodide; changes in cell size and granularity as measured by forward light scatter and 90 degree side light scatter; down-regulation of DNA synthesis as measured by decrease in bromodeoxyuridine uptake; alterations in expression of cell surface and intracellular proteins as measured by reactivity with specific antibodies; and alterations in plasma membrane composition as measured by the binding of fluorescein-conjugated Annexin V protein to the cell surface. Methods in flow cytometry are discussed in Ormerod, M.G. (1994) Flow Cytometry, Oxford, New York NY.

The influence of PPRG on gene expression can be assessed using highly purified populations of cells transfected with sequences encoding PPRG and either CD64 or CD64-GFP. CD64 and CD64-GFP are expressed on the surface of transfected cells and bind to conserved regions of human immunoglobulin G (IgG). Transfected cells are efficiently separated from nontransfected cells using magnetic beads coated with either human IgG or antibody against CD64 (DYNAL, Lake Success NY). mRNA can be purified from the cells using methods well known by those of skill in the art. Expression of mRNA encoding PPRG and other genes of interest can be analyzed by northern analysis or microarray techniques.



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PPRG substantially purified using polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE; see, e.g., Harrington, M.G. (1990) Methods Enzymol. 182:488-495), or other purification techniques, is used to immunize rabbits and to produce antibodies using standard protocols.

Alternatively, the PPRG amino acid sequence is analyzed using LASERGENE software (DNASTAR) to determine regions of high immunogenicity, and a corresponding oligopeptide is synthesized and used to raise antibodies by means known to those of skill in the art. Methods for selection of appropriate epitopes, such as those near the C-terminus or in hydrophilic regions are well described in the art. (See, e.g., Ausubel, 1995, supra, ch. 11.)

Typically, oligopeptides 15 residues in length are synthesized using an ABI 431A peptide synthesizer (Perkin-Elmer) using fmoc-chemistry and coupled to KLH (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis MO) by reaction with N-maleimidobenzoyl-N-hydroxysuccinimide ester (MBS) to increase immunogenicity. (See, e.g., Ausubel, 1995, supra.) Rabbits are immunized with the oligopeptide-KLH complex in complete Freund's adjuvant. Resulting antisera are tested for antipeptide activity by, for example, binding the peptide to plastic, blocking with 1% BSA, reacting with rabbit antisera, washing, and reacting with radio-iodinated goat anti-rabbit IgG.

XIII. Purification of Naturally Occurring PPRG Using Specific Antibodies

Naturally occurring or recombinant PPRG is substantially purified by immunoaffinity chromatography using antibodies specific for PPRG. An immunoaffinity column is constructed by covalently coupling anti-PPRG antibody to an activated chromatographic resin, such as CNBr-activated SEPHAROSE (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech). After the coupling, the resin is blocked and washed according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Media containing PPRG are passed over the immunoaffinity column, and the column is washed under conditions that allow the preferential absorbance of PPRG (e.g., high ionic strength buffers in the presence of detergent). The column is eluted under conditions that disrupt antibody/PPRG binding (e.g., a buffer of pH 2 to pH 3, or a high concentration of a chaotrope, such as urea or thiocyanate ion), and PPRG is collected.

XIV. Identification of Molecules Which Interact with PPRG

PPRG, or biologically active fragments thereof, are labeled with ¹²⁵I Bolton-Hunter reagent. (See, e.g., Bolton, A.E. and W.M. Hunter (1973) Biochem. J. 133:529-539.) Candidate molecules previously arrayed in the wells of a multi-well plate are incubated with the labeled PPRG, washed, and any wells with labeled PPRG complex are assayed. Data obtained using different concentrations of PPRG are used to calculate values for the number, affinity, and association of PPRG with the candidate molecules.





Various modifications and variations of the described methods and systems of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention. Although the invention has been described in connection with specific preferred embodiments, it should be understood that the invention as claimed should not be unduly limited to such specific embodiments. Indeed, various modifications of the described modes for carrying out the invention which are obvious to those skilled in molecular biology or related fields are intended to be within the scope of the following claims.

Table

Polypeptide SEQ ID NO:	Nucleotide SEQ ID NO:	Clone ID	Library	Fragments
1	21	1220330	NEUTGMT01	1220330H1 (NEUTGMT01), 1220330R6 (NEUTGMT01), 3031706F6 (TLYMNOT05)
2	22	1342493	COLNTUT03	071068F1 (PLACNOBO1), 1321108F6 (BLADNOT04), 1342493F6 (COLNTUT03), 1342493H1 (COLNTUT03), 1345967T6 (PROSNOT11), 1438889F1 (PANCNOT08), 1679890T7 (STOMFET01), 1800338T6 (COLNNOT27), 3217273H1 (TESTNOT07)
3	23	1698270	BLADTUT05	1698270H1 (BLADTUTO5), 1374869H1 (LUNGNOT10), 312647R1 (LUNGNOT02), 386032H1 (THYMNOT02)
4	24	2012492	TESTNOT03	2004918R6 (TESTNOT03), 2004918T6 (TESTNOT03), 2011777H1 (TESTNOT03), 2012492H1 (TESTNOT03),
ĸ	25	2309875	NGANNOT01	1597268F6 (BRAINOT14), 1682605X22C1 (PROSNOT15), 1683253X19C1 (PROSNOT15), 1685583X13C1 (PROSNOT15), 1752982H1 (LIVRTUT01), 2052808F6 (LIVRFET02), 2197089H1 (SPLNFET02), 856284R1 (NGANNOT01), 2309875H1 (NGANNOT01)
9	26	2479394	SMCANOT01	2479394F6 (SMCANOTO1), 2479394H1 (SMCANOTO1), 2623972X42F1 (KERANOTO2), SAEC10649F1, SAEA03168R1, SAEC11168F1, SAEA00641R1, SAEC10266F1, SAEC11328F1
٢	27	2613215	SINIUCT01	231698R1 (SINTNOTO2), 1363780F1 (LUNGNOT12), 1546635R6 (PROSTUT04), 1662163F6 (BRSTNOT09), 1859908F6 (PROSNOT18), 2192713X13F1 (THYRTUT03), 2543078X303F1 (UTRSNOT11), 2613215H1 (SINIUCT01)
œ	28	001528	U937NOT01	001528F1 (U937NOT01), 001528H1 (U937NOT01), 001528X5 (U937NOT01), 001528X6 (U937NOT01), 001528X9 (U937NOT01), 443686R6 (MPHGNOT03), 2596612H1 (OVARTUT02), 2888384X12F1 (LUNGFET04), 3598232H1 (FIBPNOT01), 4906930H2 (TLYMNOT08)
6	29	938626	KIDNTUT01	998626H1 (KIDNTUTO1), 998626R6 (KIDNTUTO1), 4073122F6 (KIDNNOT26)

Table 1 (cont.)

Polypeptide Nucleotide SEQ ID NO: SEQ ID NO:	Nucleotide SEQ ID NO:	Clone	Library	Fragments
10	30	1393301	THYRNOT03	1393301H1 (THYRNOT03), 2008519T6 (TESTNOT03), SBFA01183F1, SBFA01807F1, SBFA03248F1, SBFA00528F1
11	31	1444055	THYRNOT03	1444055H1 (THYRNOT03), 1444055R1 (THYRNOT03), 2738343H1 (OVARNOT09)
12	32	1650177	PROSTUT09	1616250F6 (BRAITUT12), 1616250T6 (BRAITUT12), 1650177F6 (PROSTUT09), 1650177H1 (PROSTUT09), 2372255H1 (ADRENOT07), 3286138F6 (HEAONOT05), 4012302H1 (MUSCNOT10), SAEA00123F1
13	33	1902576	OVARNOT07	1902576H1 (OVARNOTO7), 2909961H1 (KIDNTUT15), SZAPO0669V1, SZAPO2354V1, SZAPO0959V1, SZAPO1377V1, SZAPO0432V1, SZAPO0726V1, SZAPO1982V1
14	34	2024210	KERANOT02	2024210H1 (KERANOT02), 4569479H1 (HELATXT01), 4817326H1 (HELATXT03)
15	35	2523109	BRAITUT21	2523109H1 (BRAITUT21), 3574330H1 (BRONNOT01), 3126142H1 (LUNGTUT12), 3417837H2 (PTHYNOT04), 2309843X13C1 (NGANNOT01), 2365785X305D1 (ADRENOT07), 2674631F6 (KIDNNOT19), 4770421H1 (BRAINOT02), 2122564F6 (BRSTNOT07), 5401752H1 (BRAHNOT01), 2196601F6 (SPLNFET02), 2599102F6 (UTRSNOT10), 3030634T6 (HEARFET02), 1721515T6 (BLADNOT06), 546753F1 (BEPINOT01)
16	36	2588566	LUNGNOT22	2588566H1 (LUNGNOT22), 2588566X303D1 (LUNGNOT22), 2727313T6 (OVARTUT05), 3972055H1 (ADRETUT06), SBKA00529F1



Table 1 (cont.)

Polypeptide Nucleotide SEQ ID NO: SEQ ID NO:	Nucleotide SEQ ID NO:	Clone ID	Library	Fragments
17	37	2740570	2740570 BRSTTUT14	102671F1 (ADRENORO1), 102671R1 (ADRENORO1), 678618X16 (UTRSNOTO2), 1259309F6 (MENITUTO3), 1466058F6 (PANCTUTO2), 2740570H1 (BRSTTUT14), 2740570X316D2 (BRSTTUT14), 2740570X319F1 (BRSTTUT14), 3050368H1 (LUNGNOT25), SCJA02363V1
18	38	2820384	BRSTNOT14	1642163F6 (HEARFETO1), 1706505F6 (DUODNOTO2), 1742853T6 (HIPONONO1), 1853454F6 (LUNGFETO3), 1878661F6 (LEUKNOTO3), 1878661H1 (LEUKNOTO3), 2820384H1 (BRSTNOT14), 2820384X13F1 (BRSTNOT14), 3497393H1 (PROSTUT13), 3633187H1 (LIVRNOTO3), 4059719H1 (BRAINOT21), 4144331H1 (BRSTTMT01), 4982538H1 (HELATXTO5)
19	39.	2990692	KIDNFET02	2990692F6 (KIDNFET02), 2990692H1 (KIDNFET02), 2990692X14F1 (KIDNFET02), 2990692X34F1 (KIDNFET02), 4636147H1 (MYEPTXT01)
20	40	4590384	MASTTXT01	1487107F6 (UCMCL5T01), 4590384H1 (MASTTXT01), 4918570H1 (LIVRFET05), SANA01269F1



Polypeptide Seq ID NO:	Amino Acid Residues	Potential Phosphorylation Sites	Potential Glycosylation Sites	Signature Sequence	Identification	Analytical Methods
1	206	T66 S38 T103 T154 S180 T21 T31 T68 T84			Metalloproteinase	BLAST BLOCKS PRINTS
5	754	\$29 T79 \$188 \$197 T216 T224 T235 T331 \$357 T391 \$410 T474 \$607 \$609 \$709 T717 T744 \$13 \$42 T63 \$87 \$139 \$167 \$194 \$268 T297 T313 T435 T470 \$728 \$741 T748 \$573 T681 T687	N220 N570		Calpastatin	BLAST
3	308	S33 S136 S207 T220 S290 S304 S41 T122 S125 Y268	N144 N167	Prolyl aminopeptidase: L105 Serine protease: L66	Protease	BLOCKS PRINTS
P	164	T157		Kunitz family signature: F136	Trypsin inhibitor	BLAST BLOCKS MOTIFS PRINTS
ις	565	T155 T451 S477 S115 S298 S350 T392 S415 T424 S488 T150 S156 S171 S187 S232 S415 S446 T447 S472 S494 Y195	N509 N533	Ubiquitin carboxyl- terminal hydrolase family 2 signature: Y502	Ubiquitin specific protease 41	BLAST BLOCKS MOTIFS PRINTS

Table 2 (cont.)

Analytical Methods	W 10 10	50 to 50	ro.		10.7
Analy Meti	BLAST BLOCKS MOTIFS PRINTS	BLAST BLOCKS MOTIFS PRINTS	BLAST MOTIFS PFAM	BLAST MOTIFS SPSCAN	BLAST MOTIFS SPSCAN
Identification	Carboxypeptidase	Aminopeptidase P	Ubiquitin protease	Trypsin inhibitor	sp32 precursor, proacrosin- binding protein
Signature Sequence	Zinc carboxy- peptidase, zinc- binding region signatures: P172, H308		Ubiquitin hydrolyase: G261-L278, Y846-V883	Signal peptide: M1-A26	Signal peptide: M1-A25
Potential Glycosylation Sites	N260	N132 N446			
Potential Phosphorylation Sites	T90 S210 S284 S290 S346 S365 T401 T411 T165 T194 S321 Y310	T36 S97 T145 S220 T243 S257 S289 S326 S404 S450 T480 S522 T551 S619 T621 T634 S4 T199 S334 T445 S548	S153 S810 T105 S170 T197 S312 S513 T593 S623 S625 S636 S644 S649 T767 T821 T885 S932 T11 S23 S78 T149 S322 T329 T670 T790 Y31 Y578 Y779 Y876	S48 S119	S505 S39 T41 S98 T134 T158 T250 S291 S331 S359 S466 T53 T59 T160 T342 S379 S399 S425 S489 Y481
Amino Acid Residues	421	999	952	166	543
Polypeptide Seq ID NO:	9	7	ω	ത	10 .

Table 2 (cont.)

Analytical Methods	BLAST MOTIFS PFAM	BLAST MOTIFS PFAM	BLAST BLOCKS MOTIFS PFAM PRINTS	BLAST MOTIFS PFAM PROFILESCAN	BLAST MOTIFS PFAM PRINTS SPSCAN
Identification	Cysteine protease	SKD3, regulator of Clp protease activity	Calcium (cysteine) protease	Protease inhibitor	Paraplegin (metalloprotease)
Signature Sequence	Caspase: D15-P81	ATP/GTP-binding site: G322-T329 Ankyrin repeat: K206-E238 Chaperonins ClpA/B: L138-I592	Cysteine protease: Q67-A78 Calpain: L13-T322	Kazal-type serine protease inhibitor: C30-C80	ATP-dependent Clp protease: A345-A363 Signal peptide: M1-W23 Transmembrane domain: A254-F272
Potential Glycosylation Sites		·			
Potential Phosphorylation Sites	S18 S6 S22 S40	S41 S132 T176 T190 T222 T242 T593 T25 S33 S64 S204 T335 T381 S472 S562 T589 S597 T630 Y263 Y310 Y508	S99 T123 S282 S547 S568 T644 T42 T52 T110 T207 S226 T332 T488 S522 T622	S73	S418 T419 T655 S166 T278 T296 S307 S425 T427 T481 S517 S564 S639 S675 T103 S244 S330 T455 S495 S506 T556 Y138
Amino Acid Residues	83	648	672	80	795
Polypeptide Seq ID NO:	11	12	-58-	14	15



Table 2 (cont.)

Analytical Methods	BLAST MOTIFS	BLAST MOTIFS PFAM	BLAST MOTIFS PFAM	BLAST MOTIFS PFAM	BLAST MOTIFS PFAM PROFILESCAN
Identification	Neutral protease alpha subunit	Ubiquitin specific protease UBP 41	Ubiquitin specific protease UBP 41	Human endogenous retroviral protease	Metase (serine protease)
Signature Sequence		Ubiquitin carboxyl- terminal hydrolase: Y378-V415	Ubiquitin carboxyl- terminal hydrolase: Y71-V108	Retroviral aspartyl protease: V111-1193	Trypsin: 134-1258 Serine protease, active site: V70-C75
Potential Glycosylation Sites					
Potential Phosphorylation Sites	S19 S63 T182 S4 T140 T168	S437 S448 T547 T23 T27 S33 S35 S46 S98 S108 T222 S253 T289 S414 S436 T473 S481 S48 T120 S182 S347	S130 T69 S129 T166 S40 S348 Y39	T133 T144 T89 S199	S266 S77 S94 T110 S166 S50 S191 S208 T275
Amino Acid Residues	193	663	362	210	283
Polypeptide Seq ID NO:	16	17	18	19	20

Fable 3

Nucleotide SEQ ID NO:	Tissue Expression (Fraction of Total)	Disease or Condition (Fraction of Total)	Vector
21	<pre>Hematopoietic/Immune (0.750) Reproductive (0.250)</pre>	Inflammation (0.750) Cancer (0.250) Fetal (0.250)	PSPORT
22	Reproductive (0.255) Gastrointestinal (0.196) Cardiovascular (0.125)	Cancer (0.475) Inflammation (0.245) Fetal (0.152)	pINCY
23	Reproductive (0.258) Cardiovascular (0.129) Gastrointestinal (0.129)	Cancer (0.419) Inflammation (0.226) Fetal (0.204)	pINCY
24	Reproductive (1.00)	Inflammation (1.000)	PBLUESCRIPT
25	Reproductive (0.258) Nervous (0.210) Gastrointestinal (0.161)	Cancer (0.548) Inflammation (0.242) Fetal (0.129)	PSPORT
26	Nervous (0.500) Cardiovascular (0.250) Dermatologic (0.250)	Cancer (0.500) Fetal (0.500)	pINCY
27 .	Reproductive (0.244) Gastrointestinal (0.179) Developmental (0.141)	Cancer (0.418) Fetal (0.231) Inflammation (0.154)	pINCY
. 28	Hematopoietic/Immune (0.304) Reproductive (0.232) Cardiovascular (0.107)	Cell proliferation (0.465) Inflammation (0.429)	PBLUESCRIPT
29	Urologic (0.714) Musculoskeletal (0.147)	Cancer (0.857) Inflammation (0.143)	PSPORT1

Table 3 (cont.)

Tissue Expression (Fraction of Total)
Endocrine (0.125) Hematopoietic/Immune
Hematopoietic/Immune (0.308) Cardiovascular (0.154) Reproductive (0.154)
Hematopoietic/Immune (0.261) Musculoskeletal (0.217) Reproductive (0.217)
Reproductive (0.333) Nervous (0.222)
Reproductive (0.600) Dermatologic (0.300) Nervous (0.100)
Reproductive (0.202) Nervous (0.173) Gastrointestinal (0.135)
Gastrointestinal (0.500) Cardiovascular (0.333) Endocrine (0.167)
Nervous (0.205) Reproductive (0.205) Cardiovascular (0.179)

Table 3 (cont.)

Nucleotide SEO ID NO:	Tissue Expression (Fraction of Total)	Disease or Condition (Fraction of Total)	Vector
38	Hematopoietic/Immune (0.267) Reproductive (0.250) Nervous (0.133)	Cell proliferation (0.600) Inflammation (0.383)	pINCY
39	<pre>Hematopoietic/Immune (0.400) Developmental (0.200) Gastrointestinal (0.200)</pre>	Cell proliferation (0.800) Inflammation (0.400)	pINCY
40	<pre>Gastrointestinal (0.500) Hematopoietic/Immune (0.500)</pre>	Cell proliferation (0.500) Inflammation (0.500)	pINCY

Table 4

Nucleotide SEQ ID NO:	Library	Library Comment
21	NEUTGMT01	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from peripheral blood granulocytes collected by density gradient centrifugation through Ficoll-Hypaque. The cells were isolated from buffy coat units obtained from 20 unrelated male and female donors. Cells were cultured in 10 nM GM-CSF for 1 hour before washing and harvesting for RNA preparation.
22	COLNTUTO3	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from colon tumor tissue obtained from the sigmoid colon of a 62-year-old Caucasian male during a sigmoidectomy and permanent colostomy. Pathology indicated invasive grade 2 adenocarcinoma. One lymph node contained metastasis with extranodal extension. Patient history included hyperlipidemia, cataract disorder, and dermatitis. Family history included cardoivascular disease and cancer.
23	BLADTUT05	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from bladder tumor tissue removed from a 66-year-old Caucasian male during a radical prostatectomy, radical cystectomy, and urinary diversion. Pathology indicated grade 3 transitional cell carcinoma on the anterior wall of the bladder. Patient history included lung neoplasm and tobacco abuse in remission. Family history included a malignant breast neoplasm, tuberculosis, cerebrovascular disease, atherosclerotic coronary artery disease, and lung cancer.
24	TESTNOT03	Library was constructed using polyA RNA isolated from testicular tissue removed from a 37-year-old Caucasian male who died from liver disease. Patient history included cirrhosis, jaundice, and liver failure.
25	NGANNOT01	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from tumorous neuroganglion tissue removed from a 9-year-old Caucasian male during a soft tissue excision of the chest wall. Pathology indicated a ganglioneuroma. Family history included asthma.
26	SMCANOT01	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from an aortic smooth muscle cell line derived from the explanted heart of a male during a heart transplant.

Table 4 (cont.)

Nucleotide SEQ ID NO:	Library	Library Comment
27	SINIUCT01	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from ileum tissue obtained from a 42-year-old Caucasian male during a total intra-abdominal colectomy and endoscopic jejunostomy. Previous surgeries included polypectomy, colonoscopy, and spinal canal exploration. Family history included cerebrovascular disease, benign hypertension, atherosclerotic coronary artery disease, and type II diabetes.
28	U937NOT01	Library was constructed at Stratagene (STR937207), using RNA isolated from the U937 monocyte-like cell line. This line (ATCC CRL1593) was established from malignant cells obtained from the pleural effusion of a 37-year-old Caucasian male with diffuse histiocytic lymphoma.
29	KIDNTUT01	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from kidney tumor tissue removed from an 8-month-old female during nephroureterectomy. Pathology indicated Wilms' tumor (nephroblastoma), which involved 90 percent of the renal parenchyma. Prior to surgery, the patient was receiving heparin anticoagulant therapy.
30	THYRNOT03	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from thyroid tissue removed from the left thyroid of a 28-year-old Caucasian female during a complete thyroidectomy. Pathology indicated a small nodule of adenomatous hyperplasia present in the left thyroid. Pathology for the associated tumor tissue indicated dominant follicular adenoma forming a well-encapsulated mass in the left thyroid.
31	THYRNOT03	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from thyroid tissue removed from the left thyroid of a 28-year-old Caucasian female during a complete thyroidectomy. Pathology indicated a small nodule of adenomatous hyperplasia present in the left thyroid. Pathology for the associated tumor tissue indicated dominant follicular adenoma forming a well-encapsulated mass in the left thyroid.

Table 4 (cont.)

Library Comment	PROSTUT09 Library was constructed using RNA isolated from prostate tumor tissue removed from a 66-year-old Caucasian male during a radical prostatectomy, radical cystectomy, and urinary diversion. Pathology indicated grade 3 transitional cell carcinoma. The patient presented with prostatic inflammatory disease. Patient history included lung neoplasm, and benign hypertension. Family history included a malignant breast neoplasm, tuberculosis, cerebrovascular disease, atherosclerotic coronary artery disease and lung cancer.	OVARNOTO7 Library was constructed using RNA isolated from left ovarian tissue removed from a 28-year-old Caucasian female during a vaginal hysterectomy and removal of the fallopian tubes and ovaries. The tissue was associated with multiple follicular cysts, endometrium in a weakly proliferative phase, and chronic cervicitis of the cervix with squamous metaplasia. Family history included benign hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and atherosclerotic coronary artery disease.	KERANOTO2 Library was constructed using RNA isolated from epidermal breast keratinocytes (NHEK). NHEK (Clontech #CC-2501) is human breast keratinocyte cell line derived from a 30-year-old black female during breast-reduction surgery.	ERAITUT21 Library was constructed using RNA isolated from brain tumor tissue removed from the midline frontal lobe of a 61-year-old Caucasian female during excision of a cerebral meningeal lesion. Pathology indicated subfrontal meningothelial meningioma with no atypia. One ethmoid and mucosal tissue sample indicated meningioma. Family history included cerebrovascular disease, senile dementia, hyperlipidemia, benign hypertension, atherosclerotic coronary artery disease, congestive heart failure, and breast cancer.	LUNGNOT22 Library was constructed using RNA isolated from lung tissue removed from a 58-year-old Caucasian female. The tissue sample used to construct this library was found to have tumor contaminant upon microscopic examination. Pathology for the associated tumor tissue indicated a caseating granuloma. Family history included congestive heart failure, breast cancer, secondary bone cancer, acute myocardial infarction and atherosclerotic coronary artery disease.
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Nucleotide SEQ ID NO:	32	33	34	35	36

Table 4 (cont.)

Nucleotide SEQ ID NO:	Library	Library Comment
37	BRSTTUT14	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from breast tumor tissue removed from a 62-year-old Caucasian female during a unilateral extended simple mastectomy. Pathology indicated an invasive grade 3 (of 4), nuclear grade 3 (of 3) adenocarcinoma, ductal type. Ductal carcinoma in situ, comedo type, comprised 60% of the tumor mass. Metastatic adenocarcinoma was identified in one (of 14) axillary lymph nodes with no perinodal extension. Tumor cells were strongly positive for estrogen receptors and weakly positive for progesterone receptors. Patient history included benign colon neoplasm, hyperlipidemia, cardiac dysrhythmia, and obesity. Family history included atherosclerotic coronary artery disease, myocardial infarction, colon cancer, ovarian cancer, lung cancer, and cerebrovascular disease.
38	BRSTNOT14	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from breast tissue removed from a 62-year-old Caucasian female during a unilateral extended simple mastectomy. Pathology for the associated tumor tissue indicated an invasive grade 3 (of 4), nuclear grade 3 (of 3) adenocarcinoma, ductal type. Ductal carcinoma in situ, comedo type, comprised 60% of the tumor mass. Metastatic adenocarcinoma was identified in one (of 14) axillary lymph nodes with no perinodal extension. The tumor cells were strongly positive for estrogen receptors and weakly positive for progesterone receptors. Patient history included a benign colon neoplasm, hyperlipidemia, cardiac dysrhythmia, and obesity. Family history included atherosclerotic coronary artery disease, myocardial infarction, colon cancer, ovarian cancer, lung cancer, and cerebrovascular disease.
39	KIDNFET02	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from kidney tissue removed from a Caucasian male fetus, who was stillborn with a hypoplastic left heart at 23 weeks' gestation.
40	MASTTXT01	Library was constructed using RNA isolated from mast cells differentiated from treated CD34+ stem cells removed from the liver of a fetus who died at 22 weeks' gestation. The CD34+ stem cells were treated with hIL-6 and hSCF (human stem cell factor) for 18 days to induce differentiation.

Table 5

Program	Description	Reference	Parameter Threshold
ABI FACTURA	A program that removes vector sequences and masks ambiguous bases in nucleic acid sequences.	Perkin-Elmer Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA.	
ABI/PARACEL FDF	A Fast Data Finder useful in comparing and annotating amino acid or nucleic acid sequences.	Perkin-Elmer Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA; Paracel Inc., Pasadena, CA.	Mismatch <50%
ABI AutoAssembler	A program that assembles nucleic acid sequences.	Perkin-Elmer Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA.	
BLAST	A Basic Local Alignment Search Tool useful in sequence similarity search for amino acid and nucleic acid sequences. BLAST includes five functions: blastp, blastn, blastx, tblastn, and tblastx.	Altschul, S.F. et al. (1990) J. Mol. Biol. 215:403-410; Altschul, S.F. et al. (1997) Nucleic Acids Res. 25: 3389-3402.	ESTs: Probability value= 1.0E-8 or less Full Length sequences: Probability value= 1.0E-10 or less
FASTA	A Pearson and Lipman algorithm that searches for similarity between a query sequence and a group of sequences of the same type. FASTA comprises as least five functions: fasta, tfasta, tfastx, and ssearch.	Pearson, W.R. and D.J. Lipman (1988) Proc. Natl. Acad Sci. 85:2444-2448; Pearson, W.R. (1990) Methods Enzymol. 183: 63-98; and Smith, T.F. and M. S. Waterman (1981) Adv. Appl. Math. 2:482-489.	ESTs: fasta E value=1.06E-6 Assembled ESTs: fasta Identity= 95% or greater and Match length=200 bases or greater; fastx E value=1.0E-8 or less Full Length sequences: fastx score=100 or greater
ВЫМРЯ	A BLocks IMProved Searcher that matches a sequence against those in BLOCKS and PRINTS databases to search for gene families, sequence homology, and structural fingerprint regions.	Henikoff, S and J.G. Henikoff, Nucl. Acid Res., 19:6565-72, 1991. J.G. Henikoff and S. Henikoff (1996) Methods Enzymol. 266:88-105, and Attwood, T.K. et al. (1997) J. Chem. Inf. Comput. Sci. 37: 417-424.	Score=1000 or greater; Ratio of Score/Strength = 0.75 or larger; and Probability value= 1.0E-3 or less
РҒАМ	A Hidden Markov Models-based application useful for protein family search.	Krogh, A. et al. (1994) J. Mol. Biol., 235:1501-1531; Sonnhammer, E.L.L. et al. (1988) Nucleic Acids Res. 26:320-322.	Score=10-50 bits, depending on individual protein families

Table 5 cont.

Parameter Threshold	1-66; Score= 4.0 or greater 1. lucleic		Adv. Score≖ 120 or greater; Match M. S. length≈ 56 or greater 97;		ring Score=5 or greater 7)	·
Reference	Gribskov, M. et al. (1988) CABIOS 4:61-66; Gribskov, et al. (1989) Methods Enzymol. 183:146-159; Bairoch, A. et al. (1997) Nucleic Acids Res. 25: 217-221.	Ewing, B. et al. (1998) Genome Res. 8:175-185; Ewing, B. and P. Green (1998) Genome Res. 8:186- 194.	Smith, T.F. and M. S. Waterman (1981) Adv. Appl. Math. 2:482-489; Smith, T.F. and M. S. Waterman (1981) J. Mol. Biol. 147:195-197; and Green, P., University of Washington, Seattle, WA.	Gordon, D. et al. (1998) Genome Res. 8:195-202.	Nielson, H. et al. (1997) Protein Engineering 10:1-6; Claverie, J.M. and S. Audic (1997) CABIOS 12: 431-439.	Bairoch et al. <u>supra;</u> Wisconsin Package Program Manual, version 9, page M51-59, Genetics Computer Group, Madison, WI.
Description	An algorithm that searches for structural and sequence motifs in protein sequences that match sequence patterns defined in Prosite.	A base-calling algorithm that examines automated sequencer traces with high sensitivity and probability.	A Phils Revised Assembly Program including SWAT and CrossMatch, programs based on efficient implementation of the Smith-Waterman algorithm, useful in searching sequence homology and assembling DNA sequences.	A graphical tool for viewing and editing Phrap assemblies	A weight matrix analysis program that scans protein sequences for the presence of secretory signal peptides.	A program that searches amino acid sequences for pattems that matched those defined in Prosite.
Program	ProfileScan	Phred	Phrap	Consed	SPScan	Motifs



What is claimed is:

1. A substantially purified polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1-20, and fragments thereof.

5

- 2. A substantially purified variant having at least 90% amino acid sequence identity to the amino acid sequence of claim 1.
 - 3. An isolated and purified polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of claim 1.

10

- 4. An isolated and purified polynucleotide variant having at least 90% polynucleotide sequence identity to the polynucleotide of claim 3.
- 5. An isolated and purified polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the polynucleotide of claim 3.
 - 6. An isolated and purified polynucleotide having a sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide of claim 3.

20

- 7. A method for detecting a polynucleotide, the method comprising the steps of:
- (a) hybridizing the polynucleotide of claim 6 to at least one nucleic acid in a sample, thereby forming a hybridization complex; and
- (b) detecting the hybridization complex, wherein the presence of the hybridization complex correlates with the presence of the polynucleotide in the sample.

- 8. The method of claim 7 further comprising amplifying the polynucleotide prior to hybridization.
- An isolated and purified polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence
 selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:21-40, and fragments thereof.
 - 10. An isolated and purified polynucleotide variant having at least 90% polynucleotide sequence identity to the polynucleotide of claim 9.





- 11. An isolated and purified polynucleotide having a sequence which is complementary to the polynucleotide of claim 9.
- 12. An expression vector comprising at least a fragment of the polynucleotide of 5 claim 3.
 - 13. A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 12.
 - 14. A method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising the steps of:
- a) culturing the host cell of claim 13 under conditions suitable for the expression of the polypeptide; and
 - b) recovering the polypeptide from the host cell culture.
- 15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 1 in conjunction with a suitable pharmaceutical carrier.
 - 16. A purified antibody which specifically binds to the polypeptide of claim 1.
 - 17. A purified agonist of the polypeptide of claim 1.

20

- 18. A purified antagonist of the polypeptide of claim 1.
- 19. A method for treating or preventing a disorder associated with decreased expression or activity of PPRG, the method comprising administering to a subject in need of such
 25 treatment an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 15.
 - 20. A method for treating or preventing a disorder associated with increased expression or activity of PPRG, the method comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment an effective amount of the antagonist of claim 18.



SEQUENCE LISTING

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 BANDMAN, Olga
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 BAUGHN, Mariah R.
 AZIMZAI, Yalda
 GUEGLER, Karl J.
 CORLEY, Neil C.
 YUE, Henry
 TANG, Y. Tom
 REDDY, Roopa
 PATTERSON, Chandra
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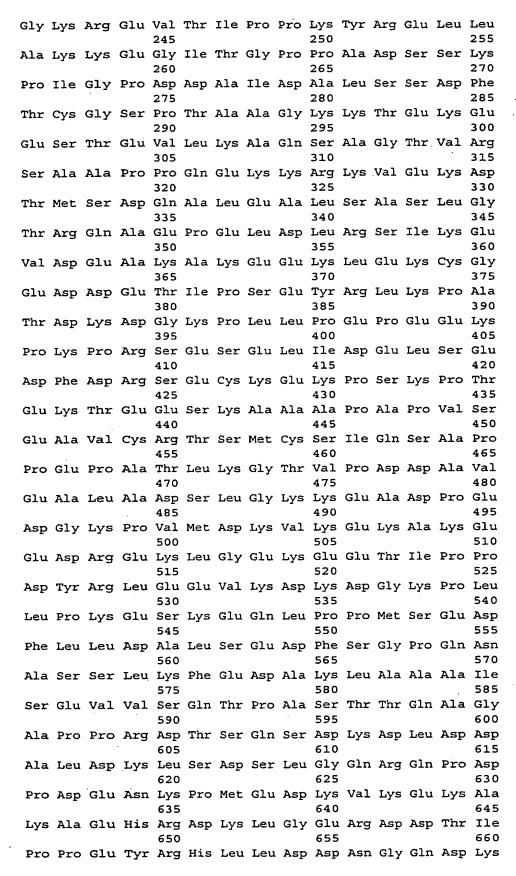
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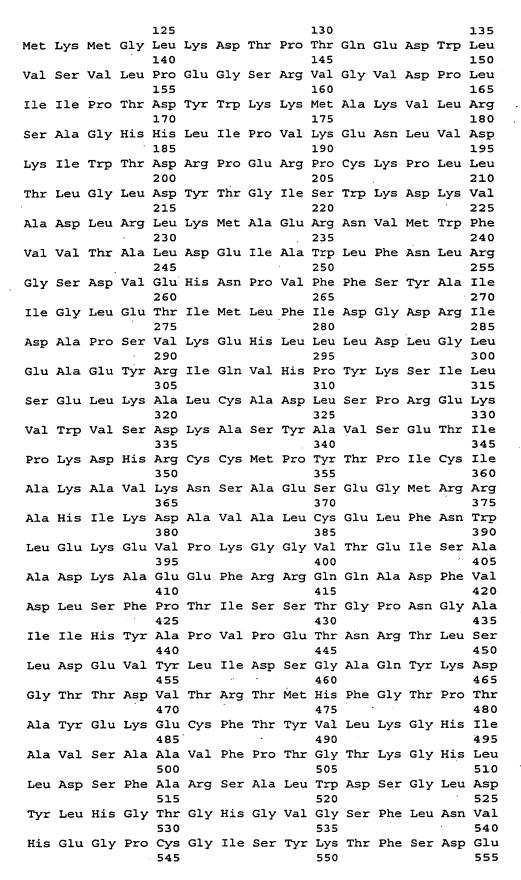
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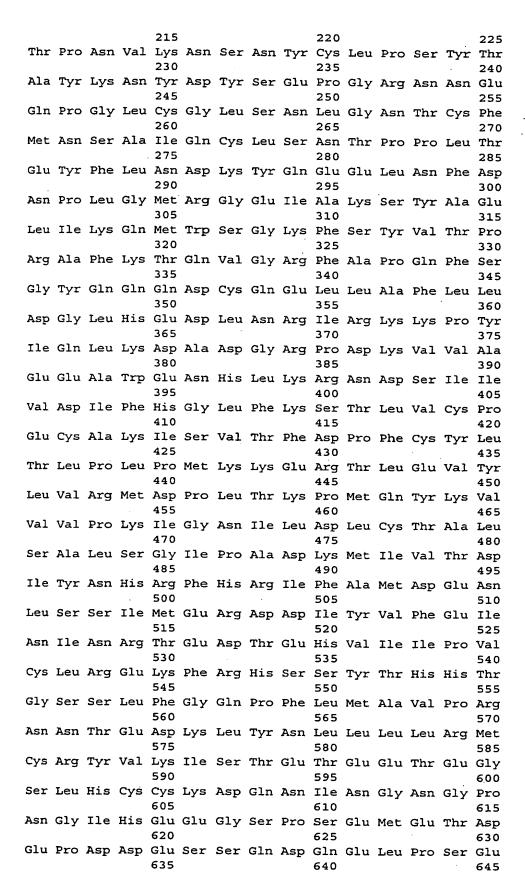
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Asn Glu Asn Ser Gln Ser Glu Asp Ser Val Gly Gly Asp Asn Asp 650 655 Ser Glu Asn Gly Leu Cys Thr Glu Asp Thr Cys Lys Gly Gln Leu 670 Thr Gly His Lys Lys Arg Leu Phe Thr Phe Gln Phe Asn Asn Leu 680 685 690 Gly Asn Thr Asp Ile Asn Tyr Ile Lys Asp Asp Thr Arg His Ile 695 . 700 Arg Phe Asp Asp Arg Gln Leu Arg Leu Asp Glu Arg Ser Phe Leu 710 715 Ala Leu Asp Trp Asp Pro Asp Leu Lys Lys Arg Tyr Phe Asp Glu 725 730 Asn Ala Ala Glu Asp Phe Glu Lys His Glu Ser Val Glu Tyr Lys 740 745 Pro Pro Lys Lys Pro Phe Val Lys Leu Lys Asp Cys Ile Glu Leu 755 760 Phe Thr Thr Lys Glu Lys Leu Gly Ala Glu Asp Pro Trp Tyr Cys 770 775 Pro Asn Cys Lys Glu His Gln Gln Ala Thr Lys Lys Leu Asp Leu Trp Ser Leu Pro Pro Val Leu Val Val His Leu Lys Arg Phe Ser 805 Tyr Ser Arg Tyr Met Arg Asp Lys Leu Asp Thr Leu Val Asp Phe 820 Pro Ile Asn Asp Leu Asp Met Ser Glu Phe Leu Ile Asn Pro Asn 830 835 Ala Gly Pro Cys Arg Tyr Asn Leu Ile Ala Val Ser Asn His Tyr 850 Gly Gly Met Gly Gly His Tyr Thr Ala Phe Ala Lys Asn Lys 860 865 Asp Asp Gly Lys Trp Tyr Tyr Phe Asp Asp Ser Ser Val Ser Thr 875 880 Ala Ser Glu Asp Gln Ile Val Ser Lys Ala Ala Tyr Val Leu Phe 890 895 Tyr Gln Arg Gln Asp Thr Phe Ser Gly Thr Gly Phe Phe Pro Leu 905 910 Asp Arg Glu Thr Lys Gly Ala Ser Ala Ala Thr Gly Ile Pro Leu 920 925 Glu Ser Asp Glu Asp Ser Asn Asp Asn Asp Asn Asp Ile Glu Asn 935 940 Glu Asn Cys Met His Thr Asn 950

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<211> 166

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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Met Leu His Pro Glu Thr Ser Pro Gly Arg Gly His Leu Leu Ala 1 5 10 15 Val Leu Leu Ala Leu Leu Gly Thr Ala Trp Ala Glu Val Trp Pro

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Pro Gln Leu Gln Glu Gln Ala Pro Met Ala Gly Ala Leu Asn Arg
                                     40
Lys Glu Ser Phe Leu Leu Leu Ser Leu His Asn Arg Leu Arg Ser
                 50
                                     55
Trp Val Gln Pro Pro Ala Ala Asp Met Arg Arg Leu Asp Trp Ser
                 65
                                     70
Asp Ser Leu Ala Gln Leu Ala Gln Ala Arg Ala Ala Leu Cys Gly
                                     85
Ile Pro Thr Pro Ser Leu Ala Ser Gly Leu Trp Arg Thr Leu Gln
Val Gly Trp Asn Met Gln Leu Leu Pro Ala Gly Leu Ala Ser Phe
                110
                                    115
Val Glu Val Val Ser Leu Trp Phe Ala Glu Gly Gln Arg Tyr Ser
                125
                                  . 130
His Ala Ala Gly Glu Cys Ala Arg Asn Ala Thr Cys Thr His Tyr
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                                    145
Thr Gln Leu Val Trp Ala Thr Ser Ser Gln Leu Gly Cys Gly Arg
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                                    160
His
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<211> 543

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<220>

<221> misc_feature

<223> Incyte Clone No: 1393301

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Met Arg Lys Pro Ala Ala Gly Phe Leu Pro Ser Leu Leu Lys Val 10 Leu Leu Pro Leu Ala Pro Ala Ala Gln Asp Ser Thr Gln 20 Ala Ser Thr Pro Gly Ser Pro Leu Ser Pro Thr Glu Tyr Glu Arg 35 40 Phe Phe Ala Leu Leu Thr Pro Thr Trp Lys Ala Glu Thr Thr Cys 50 55 Arg Leu Arg Ala Thr His Gly Cys Arg Asn Pro Thr Leu Val Gln 65 70 Leu Asp Gln Tyr Glu Asn His Gly Leu Val Pro Asp Gly Ala Val 80 85 Cys Ser Asn Leu Pro Tyr Ala Ser Trp Phe Glu Ser Phe Cys Gln 95 100 Phe Thr His Tyr Arg Cys Ser Asn His Val Tyr Tyr Ala Lys Arg 110 Val Leu Cys Ser Gln Pro Val Ser Ile Leu Ser Pro Asn Thr Leu Lys Glu Ile Glu Ala Ser Ala Glu Val Ser Pro Thr Thr Met Thr 145 Ser Pro Ile Ser Pro His Phe Thr Val Thr Glu Arg Gln Thr Phe 155 160 Gln Pro Trp Pro Glu Arg Leu Ser Asn Asn Val Glu Glu Leu Leu 170 175 Gln Ser Ser Leu Ser Leu Gly Gly Gln Glu Gln Ala Pro Glu His



				185					190					195
Lys	Gln	Glu	Gln	Gly	Val	Glu	His	Arg	Gln	Glu	Pro	Thr	Gln	Glu
				200					205					210
His	Lys	Gln	Glu	Glu	Gly	Gln	Lys	Gln	Glu	Glu	Gln	Glu	Glu	Glu
				215					220					225
Gln	Glu	Glu	Glu	Gly	Lys	Gln	Glu	Glu	${\tt Gly}$	Gln	Gly	Thr	Lys	Glu
				230					235					240
Gly	Arg	Glu	Ala	Val	Ser	Gln	Leu	Gln	Thr	Asp	Ser	Glu	Pro	Lys
				245					250					255
Phe	His	Ser	Glu		Leu	Ser	Ser	Asn	Pro	Ser	Ser	Phe	Ala	Pro
_		_		260					265					270
Arg	Val	Arg	Glu		Glu	Ser	Thr	Pro	Met	Ile	Met	Glu	Asn	Ile
67	~1		-1-	275	_				280		_			285
GIN	GIU	ьeu	тте		Ser	Ala	Gln	Glu	Ile	Asp	Glu	Met	Asn	
~ 1.	(T)	3	01	290	0	_	_		295		_		_	300
TTE	ıyr	Asp	GIU		ser	Tyr	Trp	Arg	Asn	Gln	Asn	Pro	Gly	
T All	Lan	Gla	Tan	305 Dxo	uio	The sec	~ 1	21-	310	~	** . 7	_	_	315
neu	neu	GIII	Leu	320	птэ	IIIL	GIU	AIA	Leu	Leu	vai	Leu	Cys	_
Ser	Tle	Val	Glu		Thr	Cve	Tla	710	325 Thr	Dwa	mb	71-	T	330
		• • • •	014	335	1111	Cys	116	116	340	PIO	1111	AIA	ьys	
Trp	Lvs	Tvr	Met		Glu	Glu	Tle	T.em	Gly	Dhe	Clv	T 1/0	60~	345
	-1-	- 2 -		350				DCu	355	FIIC	GIY	цуѕ	SEL	360
Cys	Asp	Ser	Leu		Arq	Arg	His	Met	Ser	Thr	Cvs	Δla	T.e.11	
_	_			365	_	_			370		-1-			375
Asp	Phe	Cys	Ser	Leu	Lys	Leu	Glu	Gln	Cys	His	Ser	Glu	Ala	
				380					385					390
Leu	Gln	Arg	Gln	Gln	Cys	Asp	Thr	Ser	His	Lys	Thr	Pro	Phe	Val
				395					400					405
Ser	Pro	Leu	Leu		Ser	Gln	Ser	Leu	Ser	Ile	Gly	Asn	Gln	Val
	_	_		410					415					420
GIĀ	Ser	Pro	Glu		Gly	Arg	Phe	Tyr	Gly	Leu	Asp	Leu	Tyr	Gly
~ 3	~	*** -		425	_,	_	_		430		_			435
сту	Leu	HIS	met		Pne	Trp	Cys	Ala	Arg	Leu	Ala	Thr	Lys	_
Cvc	C1	7.00	37-3	440	17.a.1	C	01		445	~7 .	_,	~ 3	_,	450
Cys	GIU	ASP	vai	455	val	ser	GIY	Trp	Leu	GIn	Thr	GIu	Phe	
Ser	Phe	Gln	Δsn		Aen	Dhe	Dro	Thr	460 Lys	т3 о	Crea	7 am	Th.	465
			1100	470	тор	riic	FIO	1111	475	TTE	Cys	ASD	IIII	
Tvr	Ile	Gln	Tvr		Asn	Tvr	Cvs	Ser	Phe	Lare	Sar	Gl n	Gl =	480
			-1-	485		-1-	Cyb	JCI	490	пуз	Ser	GIII		495
Leu	Met	Arq	Asn		Asn	Ara	Lvs	Val	Ser	Ara	Met	Ara		
				500		3	-,-	•	505	9		9	Cys	510
Gln	Asn	Glu	Thr	Tyr	Ser	Ala	Leu	Ser	Pro	Glv	Lvs	Ser	Glu	Asp
				515			•		520	3				525
Val	Val	Leu	Arg	Trp	Ser	Gln	Glu	Phe	Ser	Thr	Leu	Thr	Leu	
				530					535				-	540
Gln	Phe	Gly												
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<211> 83

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<220>

<221> misc_feature

<223> Incyte Clone No: 1444055

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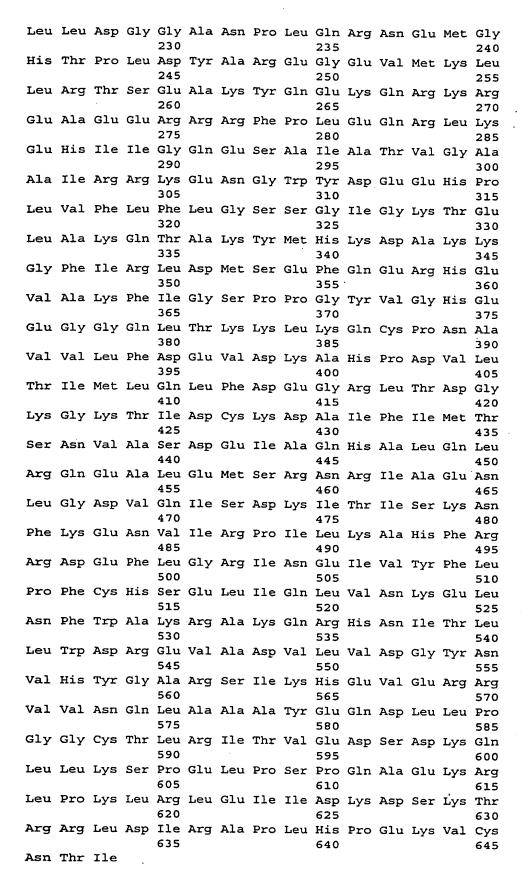
<223> Incyte Clone No: 1650177

<400> 12

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Met Leu Gly Ser Leu Val Leu Arg Arg Lys Ala Leu Ala Pro Arg





PCT/US99/17818 WO 00/09709

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<211> 672
<212> PRT
<213> Homo sapiens
<220>
<221> misc feature
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Asp Ala Ala Phe Pro Ala Ala Asp Ser Ser Leu Phe Cys Asp Leu
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                                                         30
Ser Thr Pro Leu Ala Gln Phe Arg Glu Asp Ile Thr Trp Arg Arg
Pro Gln Glu Ile Cys Ala Thr Pro Arg Leu Phe Pro Asp Asp Pro
                 50
                                     55
Arg Glu Gly Gln Val Lys Gln Gly Leu Leu Gly Asp Cys Trp Phe
                 65
                                     70
Leu Cys Ala Cys Ala Ala Leu Gln Lys Ser Arg His Leu Leu Asp
                                     85
                 80
Gln Val Ile Pro Pro Gly Gln Pro Ser Trp Ala Asp Gln Glu Tyr
                                    100
                 95
Arg Gly Ser Phe Thr Cys Arg Ile Trp Gln Phe Gly Arg Trp Val
                110
                                    115
Glu Val Thr Thr Asp Asp Arg Leu Pro Cys Leu Ala Gly Arg Leu
                                    130
Cys Phe Ser Arg Cys Gln Arg Glu Asp Val Phe Trp Leu Pro Leu
Leu Glu Lys Val Tyr Ala Lys Val His Gly Ser Tyr Glu His Leu
Trp Ala Gly Gln Val Ala Asp Ala Leu Val Asp Leu Thr Gly Gly
                170
Leu Ala Glu Arg Trp Asn Leu Lys Gly Val Ala Gly Ser Gly Gly
                185
                                    190
                                                         195
Gln Gln Asp Arg Pro Gly Arg Trp Glu His Arg Thr Cys Arg Gln
                                    205
Leu Leu His Leu Lys Asp Gln Cys Leu Ile Ser Cys Cys Val Leu
                                    220
                215
Ser Pro Arg Ala Gly Ala Arg Glu Leu Gly Glu Phe His Ala Phe
                230
                                    235
Ile Val Ser Asp Leu Arg Glu Leu Gln Gly Gln Ala Gly Gln Cys
                245
                                    250
Ile Leu Leu Arg Ile Gln Asn Pro Trp Gly Arg Arg Cys Trp
                260
                                    265
                                                         270
Gln Gly Leu Trp Arg Glu Gly Gly Glu Gly Trp Ser Gln Val Asp
Ala Ala Val Ala Ser Glu Leu Leu Ser Gln Leu Gln Glu Gly Glu
                                     295
Phe Trp Val Glu Glu Glu Phe Leu Arg Glu Phe Asp Glu Leu
Thr Val Gly Tyr Pro Val Thr Glu Ala Gly His Leu Gln Ser Leu
                320
                                     325
Tyr Thr Glu Arg Leu Leu Cys His Thr Arg Ala Leu Pro Gly Ala
                335
                                    340
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Trp Val Lys Gly Gln Ser Ala Gly Gly Cys Arg Asn Asn Ser Gly 350 355 Phe Pro Ser Asn Pro Lys Phe Trp Leu Arg Val Ser Glu Pro Ser 365 370 Glu Val Tyr Ile Ala Val Leu Gln Arg Ser Arg Leu His Ala Ala 380 385 Asp Trp Ala Gly Arg Ala Arg Ala Leu Val Gly Asp Ser His Thr 395 400 Ser Trp Ser Pro Ala Ser Ile Pro Gly Lys His Tyr Gln Ala Val 410 Gly Leu His Leu Trp Lys Val Glu Lys Arg Arg Val Asn Leu Pro Arg Val Leu Ser Met Pro Pro Val Ala Gly Thr Ala Cys His Ala Tyr Asp Arg Glu Val His Leu Arg Cys Glu Leu Ser Pro Gly Tyr 455 460 Tyr Leu Ala Val Pro Ser Thr Phe Leu Lys Asp Ala Pro Gly Glu 470 475 Phe Leu Leu Arg Val Phe Ser Thr Gly Arg Val Ser Leu Ser Ala 485 490 Ile Arg Ala Val Ala Lys Asn Thr Ala Pro Gly Ala Ala Leu Pro 500 505 Ala Gly Glu Trp Gly Thr Val Gln Leu Arg Gly Ser Trp Arg Val 515 520 Gly Gln Thr Ala Gly Gly Ser Arg Asn Phe Ala Ser Tyr Pro Thr 530 535 Asn Pro Cys Phe Pro Phe Ser Val Pro Glu Gly Pro Gly Pro Arg 545 550 Cys Val Arg Ile Thr Leu His Gln His Cys Arg Pro Ser Asp Thr 560 565 Glu Phe His Pro Ile Gly Phe His Ile Phe Gln Val Pro Glu Gly 575 580 Gly Arg Ser Gln Asp Ala Pro Pro Leu Leu Gln Glu Pro Leu 590 595 Leu Ser Cys Val Pro His Arg Tyr Ala Gln Glu Val Ser Arg Leu 605 Cys Leu Leu Pro Ala Gly Thr Tyr Lys Val Val Pro Ser Thr Tyr 625 Leu Pro Asp Thr Glu Gly Ala Phe Thr Val Thr Ile Ala Thr Arg 635 640 Ile Asp Arg Pro Ser Ile His Ser Gln Glu Met Leu Gly Gln Phe 650 655 Leu Gln Glu Val Ser Val Met Ala Val Met Lys Thr 665

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<211> 80

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<221> misc_feature

<223> Incyte Clone No: 2024210
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<223> Incyte Clone No: 2523109

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Met Ala Val Leu Leu Leu Leu Arg Ala Leu Arg Gly Pro



Tyr Ser Val Gly Met Thr Ala Val Gly Leu Ala Ile Leu Trp Tyr 265 260 Val Phe Arg Leu Ala Gly Met Thr Gly Arg Glu Gly Gly Phe Ser 280 Ala Phe Asn Gln Leu Lys Met Ala Arg Phe Thr Ile Val Asp Gly 290 295 300 Lys Met Gly Lys Gly Val Ser Phe Lys Asp Val Ala Gly Met His 305 310 Glu Ala Lys Leu Glu Val Arg Glu Phe Val Asp Tyr Leu Lys Ser Pro Lys Arg Phe Leu Gln Leu Gly Ala Lys Val Pro Lys Gly Ala Leu Leu Gly Pro Pro Gly Cys Gly Lys Thr Leu Leu Ala Lys Ala Val Ala Thr Glu Ala Gln Val Pro Phe Leu Ala Met Ala Gly 375 365 370 Pro Glu Phe Val Glu Val Ile Gly Gly Leu Gly Ala Ala Arg Val 380 385 Arg Ser Leu Phe Lys Glu Ala Arg Ala Arg Ala Pro Cys Ile Val 395 400 Tyr Ile Asp Glu Ile Asp Ala Val Gly Lys Lys Arg Ser Thr Thr 415 410 Met Ser Gly Phe Ser Asn Thr Glu Glu Glu Gln Thr Leu Asn Gln 425 430 Leu Leu Val Glu Met Asp Gly Met Gly Thr Thr Asp His Val Ile 440 445 Val Leu Ala Ser Thr Asn Arg Ala Asp Ile Leu Asp Gly Ala Leu 455 460 Met Arg Pro Gly Arg Leu Asp Arg His Val Phe Ile Asp Leu Pro 475 470 Thr Leu Gln Glu Arg Arg Glu Ile Phe Glu Gln His Leu Lys Ser 490 Leu Lys Leu Thr Gln Ser Ser Thr Phe Tyr Ser Gln Arg Leu Ala 505 Glu Leu Thr Pro Gly Phe Ser Gly Ala Asp Ile Ala Asn Ile Cys 515 Asn Glu Ala Ala Leu His Ala Ala Arg Glu Gly His Thr Ser Val His Thr Leu Asn Phe Glu Tyr Ala Val Glu Arg Val Leu Ala Gly 545 550 555 Thr Ala Lys Lys Ser Lys Ile Leu Ser Lys Glu Glu Gln Lys Val 560 565 Val Ala Phe His Glu Ser Gly His Ala Leu Val Gly Trp Met Leu 575 580 Glu His Thr Glu Ala Val Met Lys Val Ser Ile Thr Pro Arg Thr 590 595 Asn Ala Ala Leu Gly Phe Ala Gln Met Leu Pro Arg Asp Gln His 605 610 Leu Phe Thr Lys Glu Gln Leu Phe Glu Arg Met Cys Met Ala Leu 620 625 Gly Gly Arg Ala Ser Glu Ala Leu Ser Phe Asn Glu Val Thr Ser 640 635 Gly Ala Gln Asp Asp Leu Arg Lys Val Thr Arg Ile Ala Tyr Ser 655 Met Val Lys Gln Phe Gly Met Ala Pro Gly Ile Gly Pro Ile Ser Phe Pro Glu Ala Gln Glu Gly Leu Met Gly Ile Gly Arg Arg Pro

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680
                                    685
                                                        690
Phe Ser Gln Gly Leu Gln Gln Met Met Asp His Glu Ala Arg Leu
                695
                                    700
Leu Val Ala Lys Ala Tyr Arg His Thr Glu Lys Val Leu Gln Asp
               710
                                    715
Asn Leu Asp Lys Leu Gln Ala Leu Ala Asn Ala Leu Leu Glu Lys
                                    730
Glu Val Ile Asn Tyr Glu Asp Ile Glu Ala Leu Ile Gly Pro Pro
                740
                                    745
Pro His Gly Pro Lys Lys Met Ile Ala Pro Gln Arg Trp Ile Asp
                                    760
Ala Gln Arg Glu Lys Gln Asp Leu Gly Glu Glu Glu Thr Glu Glu
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Thr Gln Gln Pro Pro Leu Gly Gly Glu Glu Pro Thr Trp Pro Lys
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<211> 193

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<220>

<221> misc_feature

<223> Incyte Clone No: 2588566

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	Met	Lys	Gly	Ser	Pro 20	Ser	Glu	His	Gly	Ser 25	Gln	Gln	Ser	Ile	Phe 30
	Asn	Arg	Tyr	Ala	Gln	Gln	Arg	Leu	Asp	Ile	Asp	Ala	Thr	Gln	Leu
					35					40					45
	Gln	Gly	Leu	Leu	Asn 50	Gln	Glu	Leu	Leu	Thr 55	Gly	Pro	Pro	Gly	Asp 60
		D1	0	T		~ 3	~	_	_				_		
	Met	Pne	ser	ьeu		GIU	Cys	Arg	Ser	Leu	Val	Ala	Leu	Met	Glu
					65					70					75
	Leu	Lys	Val	Asn	Gly	Arq	Leu	Asp	Gln	Glu	Glu	Phe	Ala	Ara	Leu
		•			80	_		•		85					90
	T	T	7	T 011		TI i m	m	~ 1	***		D1	~ 1		7	
	TTD	ьуs	Arg	Leu		HIS	ıyr	GIU	His		Pne	GIn	гуѕ	vai	
					95					100					105
	Thr	Ser	Pro	Gly	Val	Leu	Leu	Ser	Ser	Asp	Leu	Trp	Lys	Ala	Ile
					110					115			-		120
	Glu	Asn	Thr	Asp	Phe	Leu	Ara	Glv	Ile	Phe	Tle	Ser	Δτα	Glu	
					125		****	Gry.	110	130	116	Jer	AL 9	Gru	
	_		_			_	_		_		_		_		135
	Leu	His	Leu	vaı		Leu	Arg	Tyr	Ser		Ser	Val	Gly	Arg	Val
					140					145					150
	Ser	Phe	Pro	Ser	Leu	Val	Cys	Phe	Leu	Met	Arg	Leu	Glu	Ala	Met
					155		. –			160	_				165
	Δla	Tave	Thr	Phe	Δτα	Asn	T.011	Sar	Lys	λαη	Gl v	Tare	C111	T 011	
•		Lys	1111	1 110		71011	שפע	Der	шуз		Gry	ьys	GIY	neu	_
					170					175					180
	Leu	Thr	Glu	Met	Glu	Trp	Met	Ser	Leu	Val	Met	Tyr	Asn		
					185					190					

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<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<220>

<221> misc_feature

<223> Incyte Clone No: 2740570

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370
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Val Thr Tyr Asp Leu Leu Ser Val Ile Cys His His Gly Thr Ala
                380
                                    385
Ser Ser Gly His Tyr Ile Ala Tyr Cys Arg Asn Asn Leu Asn Asn
                395
                                    400
Leu Trp Tyr Glu Phe Asp Asp Gln Ser Val Thr Glu Val Ser Glu
                                    415
Ser Thr Val Gln Asn Ala Glu Ala Tyr Val Leu Phe Tyr Arg Lys
                                    430
Ser Ser Glu Glu Ala Gln Lys Glu Arg Arg Ile Ser Asn Leu
                                    445
Leu Asn Ile Met Glu Pro Ser Leu Leu Gln Phe Tyr Ile Ser Arg
                455
                                    460
Gln Trp Leu Asn Lys Phe Lys Thr Phe Ala Glu Pro Gly Pro Ile
                470
                                    475
Ser Asn Asn Asp Phe Leu Cys Ile His Gly Gly Val Pro Pro Arg
                485
                                    490
Lys Ala Gly Tyr Ile Glu Asp Leu Val Leu Met Leu Pro Gln Asn
                500
                                    505
Ile Trp Asp Asn Leu Tyr Ser Arg Tyr Gly Gly Gly Pro Ala Val
                515
                                    520
Asn His Leu Tyr Ile Cys His Thr Cys Gln Ile Glu Ala Glu Lys
                530
                                    535
Ile Glu Lys Arg Arg Lys Thr Glu Leu Glu Ile Phe Ile Arg Leu
                545
                                    550
Asn Arg Ala Phe Gln Lys Glu Asp Ser Pro Ala Thr Phe Tyr Cys
Ile Ser Met Gln Trp Phe Arg Glu Trp Glu Ser Phe Val Lys Gly
Lys Asp Gly Asp Pro Pro Gly Pro Ile Asp Asn Thr Lys Ile Ala
Val Thr Lys Cys Gly Asn Val Met Leu Arg Gln Gly Ala Asp Ser
                605
                                    610
Gly Gln Ile Ser Glu Glu Thr Trp Asn Phe Leu Gln Ser Ile Tyr
                620
                                    625
Gly Gly Pro Glu Val Ile Leu Arg Pro Pro Val Val His Val
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                                    640
Asp Pro Asp Ile Leu Gln Ala Glu Glu Lys Ile Glu Val Glu Thr
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Arg Ser Leu
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<211> 362

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<220>

<221> misc_feature

<223> Incyte Clone No: 2820384

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Lys Arg Phe Arg His Glu Val Met Tyr Ser Phe Lys Ile Asn Ser

```
35
                                     40
His Val Ser Phe Pro Leu Glu Gly Leu Asp Leu Arg Pro Phe Leu
                 50
                                     55
Ala Lys Glu Cys Thr Ser Gln Ile Thr Thr Tyr Asp Leu Leu Ser
                                     70
Val Ile Cys His His Gly Thr Ala Gly Ser Gly His Tyr Ile Ala
                 80
                                     85
Tyr Cys Gln Asn Val Ile Asn Gly Gln Trp Tyr Glu Phe Asp Asp
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Gln Tyr Val Thr Glu Val His Glu Thr Val Val Gln Asn Ala Glu
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PCT/US99/17818



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WO 00/09709 PCT/US99/17818

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WO 00/09709 PCT/US99/17818

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atgetetgea eeegeagtgg ggacageeac agaegggget tetgetegge egacteegga 660
gggcccctgg tgtgcaggaa ccgggctcac ggcctcgttt ccttctcggg cctctggtgc 720
ggcgacccca agacccccga cgtgtacacg caggtgtccg cctttgtggc ctggatctgg 780
gacgtggttc ggcggagcag tececagece ggeceetge etgggaceae caggeeecca 840
ggagaagccg cctgagccac aaccttgcgg catgcaaatg agatggccgc tccaggcctg 900
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PCT/US99/17818





gaatgttccg tggctgggcc ccacgggaag cctgatgttc agggttgggg tgggacgggc 960 agcggtgggg cacacccatt ccacatgcaa agggcagaag caaacccagt aaaatgttaa 1020 ctgacgaaaa aaaaaaa 1037



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(63) Related by Continuation (CON) or Continuation-in-Part (CIP) to Earlier Applications 60/096,114 (CIP)

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(57) Abstract

The invention provides human proteases and associated proteins (PPRG) and polynucleotides which identify and encode PPRG. The invention also provides expression vectors, host cells, antibodies, agonists, and antagonists. The invention also provides methods for diagnosing, treating, or preventing disorders associated with expression of PPRG.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

onal Application No PCT/US 99/17818

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C12N15/57 C12N9/48 A61K38/48 A61K38/55

C12Q1/68

C12N5/10

C07K16/40

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C12N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	BERNOT ET AL.: "Metalloproteinase" EMBL SEQUENCE DATABASE, 1 June 1998 (1998-06-01), XP002129490	1-6,9-11
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Y	Ac 043923 the whole document	20
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Υ	vol. 50, 1998, pages 147-160, XP002090815 page 154, left-hand column	1-16,19,
	-/	20

X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in annex.		
Special categories of cited documents: A*. document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance.	*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention		
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O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	ments, such combination being obvious to a person sidled in the art.		
°P° document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	*&* document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report		
3 February 2000	1 5. 5. 00		
Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer		
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	CEDER O.		

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



0.40	Non Pooliticate consists	hr1/02 33/1/010		
(Continua	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDER Citation of document, with indica	Relevant to claim No.		
Y	WO 96 04387 A (FR); FAUCHEU 15 February 19 page 2, line 3 page 8, line 3 abstract; clai	1-16,19, 20		
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l		,		



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



Inc.national application No.

PCT/US 99/17818

Ob ervations where ertain claims wer found unsearchable (Continuation of it m 1 of first sheet) This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons: 1. X because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: see FURTHER INFORMATION PCT/ISA/210 Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically: see FURTHER INFORMATION PCT/ISA/210 Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a). Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet) This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows: As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.: No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: 1-16,19-20 ALL PARTIAL The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. Remark on Protest No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.1

Although claims 19 and 20 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.

Continuation of Box I.1

Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 17 18

Claims 17 and 18, relating to purified agonists/antagonists of the polypeptide of claim 1, could not be searched as its subject-matter was insufficietly disclosed.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

1. Claims: Invention 1: 1-16 19-20 all partial

A substantially purified polypeptide and an isolated and purified polynucleotide encoding it and uses of them, where the polypeptide sequence is SEQ ID NO 1 and the the polynucleotide sequence is SEQ ID NO 21.

2. Claims: Invention 2-20: 1-16 19-20 all partial

Idem as subject 1 but limited to each of the polypeptide sequences as in SEQ ID NOS 2-20 and corresponding polynucleotide sequences SEQ ID NOS 21-40, where invention 2 is limited to SEQ ID NOS 2 and 22, invention 3 is limited to SEQ ID NOS 3 and 23,, invention 20 is limited to SEQ ID NOS 20 and 40.

INTERNAL NAL SEARCH REPORT

Inte dional A

Information on patent family members

Inte / ional Application No PCT/US 99/17818

 Patent document	Publication	Patent family	Publication date
cited in search report	date	member(s)	
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